

THE GATEWAY

Volume XCI Number 32

Tuesday, 5 February, 2002

http://www.su.ualberta.ca/gateway/



Kate Rossiter / THE GATEWAY

Songstress Martina Sorbara shows that her musical ability goes far beyond the guitar at her Folk Fest sponsored concert at the Horowitz Theatre last Friday.

BC students plan protests to keep tuition frozen

Hike could go to 30 per cent, say sources

Kevin Groves

THE MANTLET

VICTORIA (CUP) — Student organizations in BC have adopted varying strategies to lobby the province not to raise tuition fees, although all say an increase is likely when the government releases its budget later this month.

"We've heard from sources in the government that 30 per cent increases are something they're considering," said Summer McPadyen, BC chair of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS).

Jaime Matten, chair of the student association at the University of Victoria, said that with education funding frozen for three years, the university's yearly inflation of five per cent would require a \$750 increase in tuition fees each year to compensate, with no benefit to students.

"So the cost of education will pretty much double and you'll still have the same wait-list problems, the same course availability problems and the same outdated lab equipment," she said.

But with the numbers out in the open, student organizations across the province are taking steps to ensure their voices are heard in the legislature.

Matten said her association plans to concentrate its efforts this month on spreading the word about a massive demonstration against tuition

fee increases, which will take place at the legislature on 6 February as part of a coast-to-coast demonstration for more affordable universities.

"We're opposed to differential tuition but we're trying to ensure that we have some restrictions in place to prevent skyrocketing tuition similar to Ontario. We're hoping for the best but we're preparing for the worst."

— Erfan Kazemi, president, UBC student association

Other student organizations are making similar preparations. Britta Jensen, president of Simon Fraser University's student association, said her organization printed and signed 5,000 postcards urging the provincial government to increase funding to post-secondary education. Jensen added the association would also engage in a campus rally on the same day as Victoria's students.

University of British Columbia's student association admitted its protest preparations this year are less proactive. UBC President Erfan Kazemi said his organization has planned a demonstration in February.

PLEASE SEE "BC TUITION" ON PAGE 2



Today

5 Julian Cheung discusses the pressures of Asian school systems.

9 The Dudes and Whitey Houston duke it out in A&E. GO GO TKO!

16 Features profiles talented U of A artist Sean Bromilow.

Quote for the day

Next in importance to freedom and justice is popular education, without which neither freedom nor justice can be permanently maintained.

— James A. Garfield

This day in the Gateway's history

Twenty graduating nurses took their black clinic shoes and stockings and threw them over the High Level bridge into the river. This yearly ritual was in celebration of the new white shoes, stockings, and caps the nurses were to receive as graduate students.

1958

Index

News	1-3
Opinion	4-6
Arts & Entertainment	9-11
Sports	12-13
Classifieds	14
Comics	15
Feature	16

Please recycle this newspaper

Course registration gets wired

Jhenifer Pabillano

NEWS EDITOR

Registering for courses might soon be as easy as getting on the internet.

The Office of the Registrar is currently developing a web registration system they hope to implement within the year.

"Web registration is something we've wanted to do for long time," said Flora DeCoteau, Associate Registrar and Director of Records.

"With the original version of our databases, web registration wasn't feasible, but with the [software] upgrade in November, we now have capability to launch a web registration system."

Since the upgrade, several committees from the Registrar's Office have been developing a new web system, looking to streamline the course registration process and increase its efficiency for both students and administrators.

Planners hope the system will be much more informative and up-to-date, said DeCoteau. With web registration, updates to the system will happen immediately after the student makes a change. Extra information about alternative courses and full classes will also be present for students to view. Instead of listening to a long list of alternative classes on the current phone system, the web interface can allow the list to be viewed by the student. Class enrollment can also be monitored by the student online so registration decisions can be made immediately.

So far, DeCoteau says the preliminary results have been promising.

"Early indications are that it will be easy for students to use, simply because it's visual, and there's a lot of information to make decisions on. Students will find it quite straightforward."

In 1984, the U of A was one of the first universities in Canada to start using a phone registration system. Eight years later however, the appeal of the phone system has been questioned by many.

Students like Khristyne Rogers, a first year Arts student, said a web registration system would be a vast improvement. "It's a hell of a lot of fun trying to register on the phone from Newfoundland," said Rogers.

"If something happens on the phone, you get cut off. At least when you have it on the website you just reconnect. There's trying to remember all the numbers as you type them in, and the times they have for the registration. I work full-time and go to school full-time—when do I have time to register for my next term?"

Issues like these are what DeCoteau hopes will be addressed by the web system. "I think we will improve the quality of the transactions we are processing. Students will benefit from having very current information about their record, and the more information students have and the less confusing registration is, the better decisions they will be able to make."

Currently, the development team is working on security testing and interface issues. Registrar Brian Silzer will make a presentation about web registration to Students' Council on Tuesday at 6:00pm in University Hall.

THE GATEWAY

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Contributors

Kate Rossiter, Julian Cheung, Brendan Procó, Jagdeep Dhadli, Tricia Lowrey, Mike Winters, Tony Esteves, C and J, Tracy Greene, Alex Labovda, Karen Hackenbrook, Philip Head, Sean Townsend, Nolan Townsend, Nolan Shulak, Kris Berezanski, Matthew Evans, Erin LOXAM, James Johnson, Martin Coles, Patrick Finlay, Jimmy Jeong, turkey dinners, the SuperBowl and feelings. Good, bad, or otherwise.

New teaching award recognizes sessional instructors

Benissa Yau
NEWS STAFF

With the new William Hardy Alexander teaching award, sessional instructors will finally be recognized for their work.

Also known as temporary instructors, sessional instructors—who make up 40 per cent of the U of A teaching staff—have never been eligible for any teaching award.

The University Teaching Awards Committee (UTAC) proposed this new teaching award based on the belief that excellent sessional teachers deserve to be recognized.

"[We] are delighted that this award has been established," says Don Carmichael, President of the Association of the Academic Staff of the University of Alberta (AASUA). "Temporary teaching staff play a vital and indispensable role in the teaching work of the univer-

sity... [and] they are some of our best instructors. This recognition is long overdue."

Jeanette Buckingham, past president of the AASUA, also expresses her excitement about this new teaching award. "This is a group of individuals frequently overlooked and under-appreciated in the University, and [we] are delighted to see our sessional members specifically recognized in this way."

The William Hardy Alexander Award is an undergraduate teaching award that is open to all temporary teaching staff—both part and full-time—given that they have had a minimum of three years teaching experience at the University of Alberta, and have taught at least 18 credits.

A maximum of two award recipients are to be selected each year by the UTAC, based on nominations submitted to them by the faculties that teach undergraduate students.

Award recipients will be publicly recognized at a special reception, receive a monetary gift of \$3000, along with a small memento, and a permanent plaque recognizing their achievement is to be located in the Rutherford gallery.

"[We] are delighted that this award has been established. Temporary teaching staff play a vital and indispensable role in the teaching work of the university... [and] they are some of our best instructors. This recognition is long overdue."

— Don Carmichael,
AASUA President

The award is also designed to publicize such excellence to the University and to the wider community, so as to promote informed discussion of teaching and its

improvement at the University of Alberta.

Dr William Hardy Alexander was the first staff member hired when the University of Alberta opened in 1908. Initially serving as a Professor of Classics, he later took the position of Dean of Arts and Science, serving the University for thirty years.

Not only was Dr Alexander a leading scholar in his field, producing a long list of publications, but students felt that he exuded a spirit of optimism and academic challenge to every student with whom he came into contact.

In tribute to its namesake, this award is designed to recognize superior qualities in temporary academic staff, including such attributes as superior command of one's subject matter, consistent concern for student progress, and the ability to create a vital interest and enthusiasm for the subject matter in one's students.

Ukrainian institute celebrates twenty-fifth anniversary

Sheryle Carlson
NEWS STAFF

While the Ukraine celebrates ten years of independence, the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) will celebrate its 25th anniversary at the U of A.

Started in 1976, the CIUS was founded to preserve and promote Ukrainian culture in the face of Western pressures and the Soviet totalitarian regime. With the language and culture of Ukraine virtually unknown to most people and ignored by educational institutions, CIUS has been instrumental in providing extensive Ukrainian resources and research.

"The stereotypical view of Ukrainians is having these nice dance groups, perogies and easter eggs," said Dr Bohdan Klid, CIUS spokesperson. "But when you scratch the surface there's a lot to discover. We try to focus on these forgotten people, these forgotten issues, and bring to people's attention that there's more than one way of seeing Ukrainians."

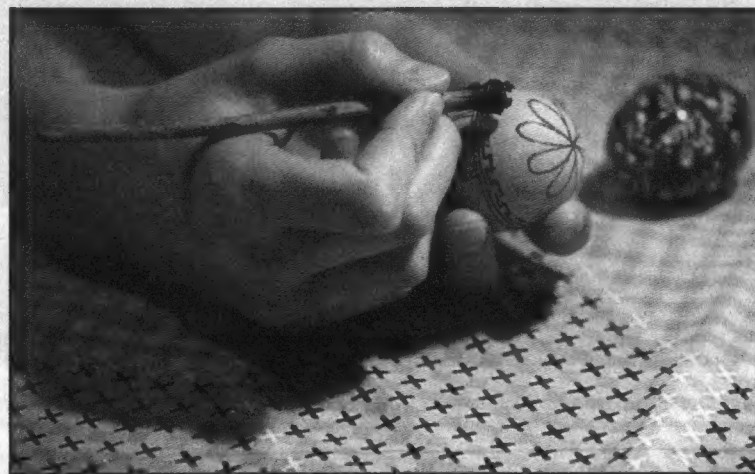
For example, through CIUS

Press, the Institute has been instrumental in publishing Ukrainian reference material. The work includes the comprehensive five-volume *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, an essential reference tool that Klid describes as one of the Institute's greatest accomplishments.

For their twenty-fifth anniversary, in celebration of renewed relations and the evolution of Canadian-Ukrainian identity, CIUS will be hosting a wide range of events. Klid said CIUS is "trying to put together interesting events to give a broader picture of Ukrainian life in Canada as well as information on contemporary and historical Ukraine."

Over the next few months, CIUS will be presenting exhibits with unique Ukrainian themes. On 8 February, they will be cosponsoring a documentary film called *My Mother's Village* at the Provincial Museum of Alberta. In March, the institute will be hosting a series of lectures on Ukrainian aerospace science and technology.

But among all the events, CIUS continues to investigate broader Ukrainian cultural issues.



File photo: Kate Rossiter / THE GATEWAY

Over 25 years, CIUS has shown that the Ukraine ain't about just Easter eggs.

Currently, Klid says CIUS is aiding Ukraine in proposing and adopting legislative documents necessary for creating a market economy.

"We are managing a project called the Canada-Ukraine Legislative and Inter-governmental Project, organizing working visits of legislators, experts in various fields, including lawyers and professors, with the aim for groups in the Ukraine to become acquainted

with the legislation and practices in particular field," said Klid.

"In the long term, Ukraine will get back on its feet, and we have to figure out what role we'll play vis-à-vis Ukraine. We also have to understand what our role is vis a vis the Canadian government in its policies. Can we act as a liaison between Canada and Ukraine? These are things we'll definitely be exploring in the future."

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

More Newton woes

On 30 January at about 6:00am, a woman returning to her vehicle found a large male looking into her vehicle. When she confronted him, he claimed to have been urinating, but the woman saw no signs, indicating he was likely scouting out a car. He is described as dark-skinned, 6'4" with a puffy jacket and short curly hair. He was driving a red Honda Civic.

Suspect calls 5-0, then arrested

On 31 January at midnight, a man called Campus Security to request access to the Tory Lecture Theatre to hang posters. Dispatch informed him he would not be granted access and to return during regular building hours. The man pleaded with Campus Security and officers attended the area.

The man had no identification on his person but was driving a vehicle. As the officers attempted to confirm his identity, it was discovered that he was a suspended driver and had a warrant for his

arrest. He was issued a fine for driving while suspended, his car was towed and he was handed over to EPS for the warrant. He was not a student.

Potential stalker reappears twice

On 31 January, a suspicious male was reported in the Cameron Library that matched the description of a suspect in the last Crime Beat. Officers arrived at Cameron but the suspect had left the area.

On 2 February, a female student called Campus Security to report the same man staring at her in CAB. She recognized him as the man involved in a similar incident the week before. She left the second floor and proceeded to the third, with the suspect following her. She called a friend who arrived and followed the suspect as he wandered aimlessly around the library. The suspect eventually returned to the third floor.

Campus Security was called as the man left the building towards CAB. Officers arrived and con-

ducted a thorough search of the area, but to no avail.

The suspect was described as a dark-skinned male, 30-40 years of age, well over 200 pounds, 6'4" with a stocky athletic build and short dark hair, a short-sleeved black shirt and carrying a jacket. If you see someone matching this description, call Campus Security immediately.

No pay, no way

On 1 February at 8:30pm, two males entered an event at the Clare Drake Arena without paying. One was seen stealing ice from a machine. Officers arrived, arrested one for public intoxication and issued a fine. The suspect was a university student, but not from the U of A.

Shady stall stalker

On 1 February, just before 9:00pm, a woman was followed into a bathroom in CAB. She noticed the male suspect in the reflection of the mirror and turned to con-

front him as he ran out the door. She saw him later crouched down near the washrooms. She called Campus Security twenty minutes later from an off-campus location.

Should you be involved in a similar incident, contact Campus Security immediately and try to get as good a description of the suspect as possible.

All over the road

On 3 February at 1:30am, officers pulled over a vehicle that was seen driving on the median near the Education car park. The driver exhibited signs of intoxication and was given a 24-hour suspension.

Difficult customer gets the boot

On 3 February, an on-campus bar phoned Campus Security requesting assistance in removing a drunken patron from the premises. He had been asked repeatedly, but refused to leave. The male was arrested and given a \$415 fine for failing to leave a licensed premise.

Compiled by Barrie Tanner (btanner@ualberta.ca)

IN YOUR OPINION

A recent SU page survey asked students if they thought campus security officers should carry pepper spray

Should Campus Security be allowed to carry pepper spray?



Christy Babcock
Psychology V

I don't think it would be a bad idea for them to have pepper spray, because they don't carry any sort of weapons. If someone's going to come onto campus looking to commit a crime, then obviously, they've probably come with some sort of a weapon, be it a screwdriver, or whatever; they've probably prepared themselves. We can't expect [Campus Security] to defend against vandalism or something like that without anything. I think they should, because they're doing us a service. As a female, I feel much safer having them here, and I think they're a valuable asset to the campus, and therefore, you know, I think it would be great.



Will Johnston
Science I

No, I don't think campus security should be allowed to use pepper spray. I've never heard of any situation in which they've required it, and until the need arises I don't think they should be carrying it.



Rob Bujalski
Chemistry IV
PhD

Hard to say; I don't really know how it feels. I don't think I'd have a problem with it, to tell you the truth. People have used it before, right? People are testing the stuff. It doesn't really hurt you permanently.

Compiled by
Steve Osadetz
Tyson Durst

Speaker raises issues about Kashmir debate

Sarah Arruda
THE LINK

MONTREAL (CUP) — Nuclear war between India and Pakistan isn't likely, India's high commissioner to Canada told students at Concordia University this week.

Rajanikanta Verma offered his interpretation of the India-Pakistan conflict to the student audience.

"The question is not whether there will be war, because a proxy war on India has been continuing for decades," said Verma. "The question now is: will India's action result in the end of the proxy war?"

"India has publicly declared its commitment to no first use of nuclear weapons," he said. "Thus, there is no danger of engaging a nuclear conflict in our part."

"We all hope that nobody in Pakistan will be so irresponsible and suicidal as to even think of using them."

Verma expressed what he called India's hope of resolving the issue through peaceful bilateral negotiations, composite dialogue, trade, economic cooperation and cultural exchange.

While dismissing the possibility of a nuclear confrontation, Verma said, "India has run out of patience and has decided that it will not put up with cross-border terrorism."

The high commissioner said India's determination to stop terrorism is the impetus behind the current tension with Pakistan. Denying accusations that the situation is being made worse by reluctance to talk, Verma said India has always been open to dialogue.

He expressed concern, however, that "it is futile to talk while one side uses it only as an exercise in

public relations and as a cover for continuing its covert aggression."

Verma said Pakistan must prove their commitment to peace, adding that Pakistani leader General Pervez Musharraf's present efforts have not gone far enough.

"Known terrorists must be handed over and the training and financing of terrorism must be stopped," said Verma.

Although Musharraf has banned terrorist groups from Pakistan, Verma accuses the banned organizations of having "simply shifted their headquarters and acquired new names."

"The question is not whether there will be war, because a proxy war on India has been continuing for decades. The question now is: will India's action result in the end of the proxy war?"

— Rajanikanta Verma, India's High Commissioner to Canada

In recent months, both India and Pakistan have moved troops to the border of the disputed province of Kashmir. Kashmir, a primarily Muslim province in overwhelmingly Hindu India, has long been a point of contention between the two countries.

Although Verma claimed that the current problem is terrorism, not the dispute over Kashmir. He noted there has been increased Pakistani pressure to address the problem of Kashmir first.

The speech was sponsored by the university's Indian Students' Association and the National Association of Canadians of Origins in India.

BC student poll on hikes reveals staunch opposition

Student leader thinks hikes can be defeated

"BC TUITION" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He added that, as increases are likely, protesting measures demanding such things as differential tuition have priority. The adoption of these policies would mean students in different pro-

lion dollars in spending after deciding the original budget-cutting plan was too ambitious.

McFadyen added a poll recently released by the CFS shows that public support for the tuition freeze is strong.

The poll found that 87 per cent of respondents said tuition fees should either remain at current levels or be lowered. Only five per cent believed tuition fees are too low.

"This poll clearly shows that despite the government's relentless campaigns against the freeze, there is no public appetite for tuition increases," McFadyen said.

Student debt in Alberta has risen by about \$1000 a year since 1986/87, when the net average debt, after remission, for a four year degree program was \$8777 to approximately \$18 000 for the 1999/2000 year. Albertan students have experienced the largest tuition increases in the country in the last decade. The average tuition fees paid by undergraduate Arts students rose more than two-and-a-half times from \$1522 to \$3970 between 1991/92 and 2001/02.

"This poll clearly shows that despite the government's relentless campaigns against the freeze, there is no public appetite for tuition increases."

— Summer McFadyen, BC Chair, Canadian Federation of Students

grams would pay different fees.

"We're opposed to differential tuition but we're trying to ensure that we have some restrictions in place to prevent skyrocketing tuition similar to Ontario," Kazemi said. "We're hoping for the best but we're preparing for the worst."

McFadyen believes tuition increases can be defeated in BC for another year. She pointed to a recent move by Finance Minister Gary Collins to restore half a bil-

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EDITORIAL

Babies: our nation's greatest natural resource

This past Saturday, the *Globe and Mail* revealed a somewhat embarrassing, but mostly disturbing and surreal, national pastime: Canada appears to be a hotbed for illegal baby trading.

Well, not *really* illegal—due to Canada's stellar healthcare system and lax surrogacy and immigration laws, infertile couples are recruiting the services of Canadian uteri to accommodate the births of much-desired children.

This is typically fine, as the arrangement is nearly always complemented by lawyers, legal agreements, and a small monetary exchange to cover the extra costs of childbearing. In common surrogacy arrangements, the father's sperm is always used, either to impregnate the surrogate mom, or to fertilize the wife's egg, which is then planted in the surrogate mother's womb.

The underground practice, however, is to "buy" a child from a "surrogate mother" who's been impregnated by a man completely unrelated to any of the involved parties. Essentially it's an adoption, except that the child-bearing mom receives compensation in the form of a US\$20 000-plus honourarium for her hard work.

The problem? Surrogacy itself isn't technically illegal, but the exchange of funds for adoption is.

Canadian surrogacy laws have already been in the works, and no

doubt these efforts will be accelerated in light of recent events. Unfortunately, the government wants to pass tough laws preventing surrogates from advertising their services or receiving any compensation at all. The government's concern that potential surrogates will be uneducated women who desperately need money or who are vulnerable to exploitation is perhaps warranted, but lugging around a second torso for nine months is no Caribbean cruise. If this hard-nosed legislation were to be implemented, the underground trade would surely continue, likely with higher stakes and potentially dangerous back-room medical procedures.

Recently, a surrogate in British Columbia was offered \$50 000 from a Vietnamese couple for a biologically unrelated child. No one who did not want to sincerely love and care for a child would drop a cool \$50 000 for a kid who is not really their own, and many of the purchasing couples are victims of legislation set out in their own countries.

Instead of passing judgement on not only the surrogate mothers but also the stricken parents, the government would be best advised to consult the affected parties and draft legislation that's appropriate.

David Zeibin
PRODUCTION EDITOR

CANADA'S SECRET WEAPON: COMEDY



LETTERS

In defense of SuperPoll 3000!

Regarding Adam Pillidge's letter ("SuperPoll 3000! a waste of time," 31 January): Adam, I am complete agreement. It vexes me to no end when Mark McIntyre takes over my mind and compels me to waste valuable moments of my time responding to his inane poll. Think, with the number of students we have on campus, there must be hours of potentially productive time wasted each week! It's holding down the GDP and GPAs!

And the lexicon is indeed disgusting! 'Tis an outrage of monumental proportions, comparable in both breadth and scope to any incident of catastrophic outcome your cerebrum could conceive! It must stop, or we will no longer enjoy our right to smugness over our polysyllabic vocabularies!

As for the over all quality of the *Gateway*, well, you're right again! It is allegedly a student-run newspaper, and I assume by your little "Arts IV" tagline that you, like me, are a student. If only there were some way for students like you and I to have some kind of impact on a student-run newspaper!

If only those little ads that appear in the *Gateway*—you know, the ones that say things like "Do you like to write? You should write for the *Gateway*," or, "Are you a pretentious asshole who would rather bitch and moan about perceived problems than do anything to fix them? Write for the *Gateway*, you dumb fucker!"—were more

explicit.

I'm with you all the way, Adam—I can't wait for election day so I can not vote and then whine about the results.

STEVE SMITH
BUSINESS/FSJ II

Teaching evaluations taken very seriously

The 31 January "In Your Opinion" asked the question, "Do you think teaching evaluations are effective?" and cited three students.

I would like to share a few of my thoughts and some of what I have learned from instructors during the 48 years that I have worked with instructors through University Teaching Services.

Firstly, the ten questions on the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) are one and only one part of the multifaceted instruments that are required for teaching evaluation as specific in the General Faculties Council Policy Manual 111.3. The USRI "are designed to provide a minimal university-wide base of information." The ten rating questions, as all students know, include questions about the course, students' motivation and learning, course delivery, and the instructor.

So, this is not an instrument that evaluates all of a teacher's abilities and contributions, but is one tool that provides ratings from students on several components and at the end of a course.

I was pleased to read that Melanie Cantelon had experienced instructors who had "totally restructured the course" and that Vanessa Downing noted that "some of the professors use" the feedback.

When I think of the majority of the professors whom I know, I disagree with Stacy Borrass that professors do not take students ratings and comments "seriously." Indeed, instructors relate how they agonize over comments because they are not sure what a student meant, or because comments are hurtful (sometimes even rude), even if the negative comments are only a minor percentage of the whole class' comments.

Professors often forget to celebrate that they have created an exciting learning environment for more than 98 per cent of their students, and are distressed over a few negative statements.

Like the rest of us, instructors would certainly want praise from student ratings, but, more importantly, they wish to learn what has helped students in their learning and how they can help students learn better.

I do not know of a single professor who comes to campus each day with the desire to teach poorly, to stand in the way of student learning and growth, professors are caring people who do not wish to fail.

My suggestions to students, if I may be so bold, are to be as positive as possible and provide constructive and specific feedback. Give feedback to your professors early in the course so there is time to implement your suggestions, and be respectful in the language used

when giving feedback; instructors are human beings with feelings.

BENTE ROED
DIRECTOR
UNIVERSITY TEACHING SERVICES

Absolutely the last word on teachers

This letter is in response to Mr Fundytus' letter, "Not all teachers deserving of a raise" (31 January). Mr Fundytus, I apologize if it appears that I feel all teachers are perfect caring beings. That is not the case, nor will it ever be. However, it is the same in any profession. You will find sub-standard engineers, nurses, doctors and just about any other profession. Yes, it's true that many professions are stressful, but contrary to Mr Fundytus' comment, few members of the general public realize how stressful teaching is.

The \$32 500 average starting wage of a teacher may seem fine to work 200 days a year, if that was all you did. Teachers spend countless evenings and weekends marking and preparing lessons, to say nothing of the many who also volunteer to supervise extra-curricular activities. Many also do work through the summer, but even if they don't, the extra evenings and weekends they do put in means that they get about as much vacation time as any other profession.

Also, examine the starting wages of most other four-year degree professions and a teacher's salary seems paltry. They pay as much in time and tuition as any other

degree, yet are not as rewarded substantially upon graduation. Finally, Mr Fundytus summed up by stating that his teachers were "by no means the most profound influence in his life." To that I say "lucky you," while that may be the case for you and I, it is not for many others. I have met many students at this university who did not have the stable family life or support system that I assume you did. I could list off several who would probably be dead or in jail if not for the intervention of a caring teacher.

In the future, I hope more people can make the same comment about teachers that you did. However, as it is becoming plainly obvious in society, I fear that future generations will be looking to teachers more and more for the guidance they do not receive at home. Teachers are not perfect, but they are also not as insignificant as many would like to think.

NICOLE WIWAD
SCIENCE IV

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 0-10 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to managing@su.ualberta.ca.

The *Gateway* reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of letters it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words in length and include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

Pressures of Asian school system deadly



Julian Cheung

In November of last year, I was very distressed to see that my old high school had made the news in Hong Kong: a grade ten student had walked out of school during lunch break and jumped thirty floors to his death, an hour after being caught cheating in a chemistry test. He left no suicide note to explain his actions.

Sadly, incidents like this are not rare in Asia. Student suicides occur more frequently when public exams are approaching, when students cannot cope with all the pressure.

Children killing themselves over grades in high school? It's hard to believe, I know. But that's the way it is in Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, and many other Asian nations. That is the environment in which children are brought up in places that are conservative, crowded, and intensely competitive. And I think that system sucks.

I've been educated in both Asia and North America, and I know that the teaching systems are very different. Whereas elementary school

in Canada is a joyride of fun projects, primary school in Asia is rote memorization and perpetual tests. In Asian countries, children are under a lot of pressure (parental, peer and otherwise) to excel academically. Many children have tutors in grade four, and they spend excessive time doing grammar and math exercises. "Practice makes perfect" and "the earlier the better" are the mottos of Asian education.

In Hong Kong has a 13-year education system. Many qualified students do not proceed to grade twelve (matriculation), much less to university. As a result, there is much pressure to excel in school. There are about 25 000 grade twelve spaces, and double that number of students with pass marks from the grade eleven public exams. Those who fail to secure a grade twelve space often repeat grade eleven, or retake the exams as an independent student.

But the pressure doesn't stop there. The grade 13 public exams determine what, where and whether a student will study in university—if they get good marks, they'll study law, medicine or architecture right after high school. If not, students repeat a year, study obscure subjects in university, or go abroad. In the two agonizing years prior to each exam, most candidates go over ten years' worth of past papers, and pay to attend tutorial sessions after school in the hope that sample questions will show up on the actual exam.

University scholarships are rare,

and the annual fees are almost double those of the U of A. There are alternatives to the mainstream school system, but associate degrees and high diplomas do not count for much at present. International schools are another option, but they are very expensive and only for students who want to study abroad.

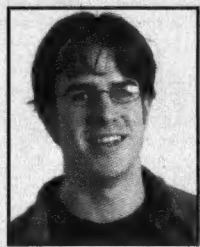
As a result of this severe academic pressure, Asians are generally more diligent in their studies than their North American counterparts. However, they are also more likely to experience burnout from stress, which can lead to depression and suicide.

I think the Hong Kong education system wears people down too early in life. Also, Hong Kong students are so used to memorizing what they are given that they have a hard time adjusting to university life, where research and self motivation are essential. More importantly, the Asian education system places too much stress on students.

Learning should be fun and interesting, yet grades eleven and 13 are years of torture. It's not healthy to put so much pressure so early in life. That's why we get so many goal-oriented, fast-paced and stressed-out Asians like myself.

One of my TAs once said that people who commit suicide in such gruesome ways want to publicize a message of discontent. In the case of this high-school student, it doesn't take much to figure where the anger is aimed at.

E-communities: the downfall of mankind



Brendan Procé

On the cover of the 2 February edition of the *Edmonton Journal's* "New Homes" section was a picture of the neo-nuclear family: balding dad, plain mom and little girl, all staring enthusiastically at a computer monitor.

This family lives in a new "wired" neighbourhood—all of the homes in the prescribed area are connected through a community intranet—a sort of baby internet available only to these homeowners. There, families can "connect" and "talk" without leaving the privacy of their homes. What a stupid idea.

Growing up, the most valuable asset of my suburbia was that people weren't afraid to come out of their homes; I could hang out with my mini-friends in the cul-de-sac or in the neighbourhood vacant lot without worry of being abducted or stared at by strange people who wondered what I was doing sitting in a pile of mud or on a sewer grate.

All of us "neighbourhood kids" got along pretty well, and the adults all crawled out of their homes simultaneously for the annual block party. There, the adults would drink and barbecue, and us kids would do what we always did. Good times.

These e-communities are sort of like the idealist neighbourhood of my youth, except that the people will never see one another. Swapping recipes and babysitter names online

with your neighbours might be cool for about twelve minutes, but what about after that? Isn't there an underlying creepiness in bonding with people that live across the street, without actually going across the street?

I can picture the children who have grown up in these strange places knowing everything about the people around them, like at what time they eat, what their favourite movies are, where and when they work, but not feeling comfortable enough to say hi to them in passing. I can see a generation of socially inept kids staring at the neighbourhood through a crack in a frosted upstairs window, wondering what kind of mystery lies in the intimacy of human company.

A representative with the company hooking up these networks told the *Journal* that a community intranet "will help boost that neighbourly feeling many believe has been lost in the hectic pace of twenty-first century life." If you can't see through this meaningless rhetoric, then maybe you deserve

to be duped.

Knowing your neighbours is a social experience, not a textual relationship that can just as easily be had with a diaper-wearing forty-something in Oslo. I think this company is trying to build an addiction to a "service" that deprives people of basic social skills in the hopes that an entire generation will become as dependent on them as consumers currently are on electricity and phone service.

The myth of the hectic twenty-first century life is an advertising marvel: companies selling faster microwave suppers, more convenient cleaning solutions, and community intranet. Life is no more hectic today than it was fifty years ago.

The real danger of companies selling "convenience" products is that people buy their reality. It has already happened with utilities, Internet access and computers, just like the one I'm writing this on. I don't think we need an electronic network just to meet the neighbours.

Dave Alexander's TOP TEN

Things going through Keith Richards' head

- 10 "Man, I look like shit."
- 9 "What decade it was again?"
- 8 "Note to self: get refund on Nivea cream."
- 7 "99 cartons of cigs on the wall, 99 cartons of cigs / Light one up and smoke to the butt, 98 cartons"
- 6 "Fuck I'd like shag that tart Martha Stewart."
- 5 "GAAHHH! Oh ... hello, reflection."
- 4 "I swear to God, Jagger, if you make me play "Satisfaction" once more, I'm going to ram this guitar through your skull."
- 3 "I wonder if I could have a threesome in this cryogenic chamber?"
- 2 "Sweet lord, please don't let me turn into a pile of dust today."
- 1 A stunning array of toxins.

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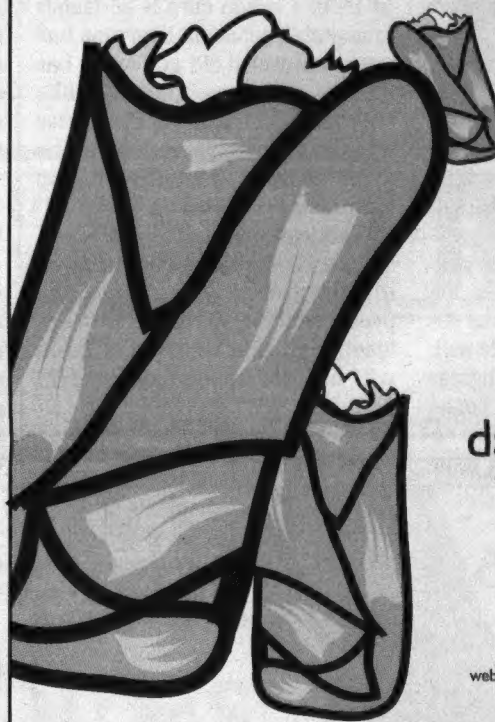
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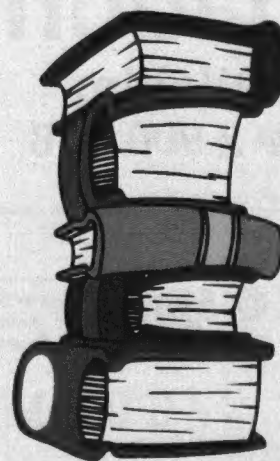
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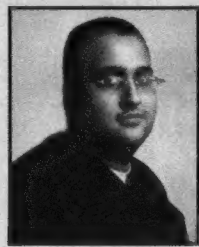
Erin Remer
Scott Manson
Fran Gabarro
Kathy McCartney
Ash Badry

all winners will be contacted by phone or email

Labatt
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Someday soon, you'll be lame



Jagdeep Dhadli

Has one of your friends ever sent you that e-mail about the quarter-life crisis? Basically, it states that we are nearing a huge turning point in our young lives because of our proximity to entering "the real world." This, naturally, puts a lot of pressure on us who have known only the sweet nurturing teat of the Canadian educational system.

Going from the school setting to the job setting is like feeling up Rita Wilson in a Volvo one night and then being thrown head-first into a marathon hump-o-rama with an angry Madonna—a pretty big leap to say the least.

Give us all a few years and suddenly all the problems that seem important to us now, like who's gonna wait in line with you for *Episode II* tickets are soon going to be replaced by real ones like mortgages, bills and job security. It's a strange feeling to know I'll soon be a working stiff, in like ten years—but still, it's a strange feeling.

And personally, I'm a little perturbed. When my parents left me alone one long weekend, I was reenacting a fierce GI Joe battle with Sgt Slaughter and a Zippo lighter and I nearly burned the house down when I dropped the lighter on some Crown Royal I spilled after

breaking into my dad's liquor cabinet—and this was just last year. I'm not exactly Mr Responsibility.

And I guess that's where the crisis comes from—the fact that we're going to have to grow up, and fast. Now, university isn't kindergarten; it does provide you with extremely valuable lessons. Where else can you learn the intricacies of the human liver cell and how to make a bong out of an empty paper towel tube all in the same day?

But even if you're one of those freaks who attends classes, nothing can fully prepare you for your life as an adult. It's like wearing girls' underwear: you never know what it'll be like until you experience it for yourself ... um, that's just an example. When you put it like that, some might say, "Stop worrying. It's going to happen anyway—people get older."

And in a way, they've got a point. Maybe the crisis isn't about the inevitability of getting old and square; perhaps it is in the knowledge that throwing glasses out the window at Stollie's at cop cars is no longer acceptable behavior. Everyone has seen that weird old guy at the bar staring at the waitress' tits like they're a fucking Magic Eye poster enough to know there's got to be a time when you should hang up your Lister Hall T-shirt.

Whatever causes the apprehension, once you leave this hallowed institution with that degree, the pressure's on. I know it's scary leaving all this behind, but there will be good times, post-U of A, and you haven't graduated yet—so what're ya waiting for? Go tear some shit up!

National editorials are losing credibility



Tricia Lowrey

First, a little background: the *Edmonton Journal* is owned by Southam News, which is owned by CanWest Global Media, which in turn is owned by the Asper family of Winnipeg. In the beginning of December, Southam began running nation-wide editorials in the fourteen papers that it owns.

Readers have found it unnerving to have the leading opinion in their newspaper dictated to them from somewhere else and began to complain. Other newspapers began to run articles attacking the national editorial policy, accusing Southam of reducing itself to a soapbox for the Aspers' political views, and of censoring opposing viewpoints, especially with regard to the issue of the Israel/Palestine conflict, about which the Aspers are known to have particularly strong feelings.

Southam went on the offensive 29 January with a nation-wide editorial about why nationwide editorials are a "good thing": they "seek to bring Canadians together in a national discussion of ideas." A few paragraphs later it adds: "local editorials won't contradict our core positions." In the 30 January *Journal* ran an article in which Murdoch Davis, Southam's Editor-

in-Chief, lambasted critics of the policy. Davis argues that "it is always a newspaper owner's prerogative to determine the editorial voice." He describes journalists who have spoken out against the national editorials as "drinking their own bathwater, feeding their own rumours, repeating each other's errors. They link random, normal editorial decisions at individual newspapers into a conspiracy. But they never bother to check it out."

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Davis then systematically debunks each of the controversies that he alleges have been manufactured by other newspapers and dissenting columnists from within, arguing that where pieces had been refused publication, it was because they were poor quality, not because they expressed a dissenting opinion.

Whatever credibility Southam thought it had re-established for its national editorials went right out the window with its "UN must change" national editorial on

31 January.

The editorial argues that the UN is a bad thing because "the 168 countries that pay only about 14 per cent of the costs regularly use the UN to attack western democracies, especially Israel," and that the WTO and the G-8, among other multilateral governmental organizations, are doing a much more effective job of sorting out the world's problems.

It ends by stating that "A UN for the twenty-first century must be [financially] lean, focussed, and sympathetic to Western values. Otherwise, it will not be worth keeping."

Apparently, it is of little relevance to the editor that those 168 countries likely make 14 per cent of the gross planetary product, or that Western values may be the cause of some of the problems the world faces today, such as pollution, this planet's dwindling natural resources, and the increasing gap between the world's rich and poor.

Admittedly, the newspaper has every right to publish such an opinion, and it is not the fact that I disagree vehemently with the editorial's position that makes the argument in favour of national editorials lose credibility, but rather the fact that this is the exact editorial position that has been so strongly linked with the Asper family, and that has been the target of so much controversy.

Publishing this kind of an editorial with the issue so fresh in readers' minds only gives ammunition to those who wish to cast aspersions on Southam's journalistic integrity.

V

SU Elections

march 6 & 7

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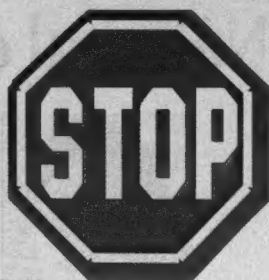
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SU
Elections

march 6 & 7

Notice of Referendum

Two Referenda questions have been proposed for the upcoming general election on March 6th and 7th:

- 1) A referendum question concerning the levying of a student fee for, and creation of, an independent student newspaper.*
- 2) A referendum question concerning the levy of a student fee in support of an art and literature magazine at the U of A.*

* The exact wording of referendum questions is to still be determined

A preliminary meeting of those interested in registering "Yes" and "No" sides for each question will take place on February 8th at 5pm in room 306 SUB.

The deadline to register sides is 5pm February 15th at which time a meeting will occur for those interested in registering "Yes" and "No" sides for each question.

For more information: cro@su.ualberta.ca
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reality
bites.

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The Elections

Welcome to another exciting year of GSA General Elections. We are well into the election cycle, with nominations having closed January 29, 2002. The campaign period is in full swing and wraps up at 4:30 on Tuesday February 12, 2002. While there was some discussion earlier in the year of the possibility of a referendum on health care in this election, there are no referendum questions before us in this election. We do have eight strong candidates running for the six Executive positions this year.

In case you are not familiar with recent GSA Bylaw changes, please note that this is the first year that candidates who are uncontested must receive a majority YES vote in order to assume an uncontested Executive position. If candidates do not receive the requisite percentage of the vote, the position will be open in by-election at the Annual General Meeting, Monday March 25, 2002. Please be sure to come out and vote February 13th and 14th.

Finally, take time to enter the raffle! We have over a hundred great prizes to give out thanks to the local sponsors who so generously donated goods, coupons, and gift certificates. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the CRO or DRO at the GSA office 492-2175.

Come out and have your voice heard.

Remember to vote February 13th and 14th in your Department

Voting will take place in the following departmental offices from **8:30 until 4:30 Wednesday February 13, 2002 and 8:30 to 2:00 pm on Thursday February 14, 2002**. Additional departments may be added over the course of the campaign period. Please see the election website: www.ualberta.ca/~gsacro for up to date polling information.

If there is a polling station in your department, you are required to vote there. You must present your ONEcard in order to vote. There will also be a polling station in the GSA office which will be open 8:30 am to 7:00 pm Wednesday February 13, 2002 and 8:30 to 4:30 Thursday February 14, 2002.

If you cannot vote during regular polling, advance polling will be available at the GSA office from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm February 6 and 7, 2002. Please note: you will be asked to sign a declaration that you are not able to vote during the regular voting period if you vote during advance polling.

Participating Departments

- Agriculture, Food & Nutrition Sciences
- Anthropology
- Art & Design
- Biochemistry
- Biological Sciences
- Chemical & Materials Engineering
- Chemistry
- Earth & Atmospheric Sciences
- Economics
- Elementary Education
- History & Classics
- Human Ecology
- Law, Linguistics
- Mathematical Sciences
- Mechanical Engineering
- Medicine
- Micro & Immunology
- Modern Languages & Cultural Studies
- Neuroscience
- Occupational Therapy
- Oncology
- Pharmacology
- Physical Education & Recreation
- Physiology
- Political Science
- Psychiatry
- Psychology
- Public Health Science
- Rehabilitation Medicine
- Renewable Resources
- Rural Economy
- Secondary Education
- Speech Pathology and Audiology

Graduate Students' Association



2002/2003 Election Information

The Candidates

President



Chrissie-Jane Cronje
(IND)

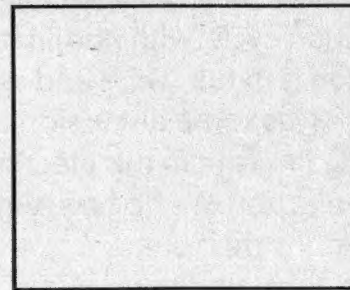


Brad Wuetherick
(SUCCESS)

VP Internal



Rick Johnson
(SUCCESS)



Lana Poukliakova
(IND)

Executive VP



Elaine Ho
(SUCCESS)

VP Academic



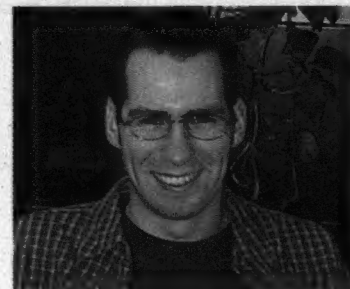
Dan Preece
(SUCCESS)

VP Finance & Admin



Neil Hepburn
(SUCCESS)

VP Student Services



Chris Parker
(SUCCESS)

Chrissie-Jane Cronje For President (IND)

In these times, we have to strive to find a true balance between our personal values and the pressures of the increasingly more complicated social structure we find ourselves in. As M. Music student, I believe I have the spirit, human skills and energy to partake in GSA team work and continue to let students come first.

My biggest challenge in life has always been to attain unity from diversity: I have always wanted to bring together artistic and intellectual endeavours. The keyword for unity is balance. Now here I am, just having finished a Master degree; the door is open to further study. I do, however, feel that this is the time to look in other directions as well, namely to serve my fellow students in the coming year. The position of GSA President is an ideal opportunity to bring together the diverse aspects of university life and serve my fellow students.

As GSA President I will continue to help fight the ever more challenging battle to reduce or eliminate annual tuition increases. We have to continue to look after graduate student scholarship and bursary funding as well as payment of TAs. However, it would be really great to accommodate a larger body of students, especially undergrad students, by keeping our annual tuition to a minimum, and to continue to lobby the government for more support for tuition payment.

It is also very important to cultivate an appreciation of the various ethnic groups in our student body. This can be helped by reducing or eliminating the differential fee and ensuring a continuation of frequent student forums, that will attract an equal number of local and international students. As Canadian students, we have a lot to be thankful for, because we live and study in a peaceful environment. Let us continue to share this blessing with foreign students in a way that is best for all.

Events are as important as, if not more important than, forums. Events can help to unify students through mutual experience. As an art student I plan to help reveal all forms of art to all students, and the world of science, business, etc. to art students. The key word is again balance: in being open to one world one tends to do a better job at the other. I will see that the GSA helps plan and advertise music concerts, science seminars, political science talks, sport events, humanitarian deeds etc., and make sure that all members of our student body get involved.

We must continue to have a great deal of respect for our surrounding community. I will work at finding a best-for-all solution to issues similar to the elimination/reduction of the Garneau Residential Area case.

It is my pleasure to run for president of the GSA for the coming year. As President of the GSA I will always be there when you need advice, support and hard work.

If you have any questions, contact me at ccronje@ualberta.ca. Ensure that your needs are listened to, by voting Chrissie-Jane Cronje for President on February 13 and 14.

Brad Wuetherick for President (SUCCESS)

My name is Brad Wuetherick and I would like to be re-elected as the GSA President. I am currently serving as your GSA President after serving as the Executive Vice-President. Throughout my involvement with the GSA I have gained invaluable experience working with university administration, as well as with all levels of government. I am also the Co-Chair of the Alberta Graduate Council, having previously served as the Vice-Chair Research and Policy and have been the Chair of the Graduate Students' Association of Canada for the past two years.

As an Executive member, I have helped the GSA increase the amount of graduate student funding available at our university. I fought to keep tuition increases as low as possible, while being successful at getting the university to commit to re-implementing post-program fees. I have worked with administration to approach the government about lifting the requirement to charge a 100% differential fee. I chaired a Long Range Planning Committee for the GSA where we completed a five year plan for the GSA. I have negotiated with the university to ensure that they understand the GSA's office and social space needs. I implemented Executive Business Plans that detail the goals of the Executive for their year in office.

Why would I want to serve as President again? Though the reasons are many, they can be grouped under two broad categories: to finish what we've started, and to implement new initiatives we haven't been able to start.

I want to continue working with the administration to ensure that Federal and Provincial support for graduate student funding increases. I want to ensure that the University Administration takes all possible steps to keep tuition for graduate students as low as possible and to phase in the post-program fees as quickly as possible. I want to ensure that the International Differential Fee mandated by the province is eliminated. I want to see the negotiations through that will see the GSA get expanded office and social space for graduate students to use on campus.

I want to increase the number of staff in the GSA office in order to increase the services we provide for students. We would implement new services identified by our members as priorities. I want to undertake a fundraising campaign to increase our endowment, allowing the GSA to be far less reliant on fees paid by current students. I want to see AGC to undertake a MLA lobby tour every year to raise awareness of issues and concerns faced by graduate students.

I have the experience, commitment, understanding, and ability to serve the needs of all graduate students here at the U of A and I look forward to serving again as your GSA President in 2002-2003. All members of the SUCCESS slate are committed to serving graduate students and are committed to leaving the University of Alberta a better place for graduate students in the future. On February 13 and 14 vote BRAD, ELAINE, RICK, DAN, NEIL, and CHRIS. Vote SUCCESS.

Graduate Students' Association



2002/2003 Election Information

Elaine Ho for Executive Vice President (SUCCESS)

Hello! My name is Elaine Ho, and I would like to be your next Executive Vice President! I am a 2nd year PhD student in Psychology at the University of Alberta, and have the experience, drive, and dedication needed to be a good Executive VP for the Graduate Students' Association.

I am running as part of the SUCCESS slate because I believe these are the best people for the positions on GSA Executive for 2002/03. I have worked with each member in at least two forums at the GSA and know that we can work together to accomplish great things. SUCCESS represents what is most important to us for the GSA: Students, Understanding, Commitment, Co-operation, Experience, Service, and Stability. We are able to provide these important elements to you, the graduate student, and thus are best suited to represent graduate students at the UofA.

I have been involved with the GSA since I arrived at the University of Alberta – participating first as the Psychology Councilor and a volunteer on nearly all GSA committees, then as Chief Returning Officer for the 2001/02 elections, and most recently as Vice President Student Services. I have participated in this year's GSA Negotiations for academically employed students with the University and have gained a great deal of knowledge on how the negotiation process works. Negotiations are one of the most significant duties of the Executive Vice President, my involvement this year will be an asset towards successful negotiations in 2002/03.

As Vice President Student Services, I have been engaged in several major projects at the GSA as part of the business plan established by the Executive, but I have also gone beyond the duties outlined in my portfolio in order to increase the GSA's profile at the university, and increase services for students. I have expanded the GSA Student Services Review to include evaluations of the GSA office, our visibility on campus, and ways to streamline our operations. I have doubled the number of social events from last year, which have been extremely successful, and included a larger variety in types of socials too. I have also been very active in fundraising for the Campus Food Bank during the United Way Campaign, raising several hundred dollars (nearly 8 times more money than last year!) which will go towards helping students who are in need. Finally, I have undertaken completely new projects for the GSA, including co-operating with Alumni Affairs to present work of graduate students at alumni weekends, creating Dewey's nights at the Power Plant with specials for graduate students, the GSA membership card, and reinstating the Graduate Student Symposium, a conference where students' research and works can be showcased to the university community.

Rick Johnson for VP Internal

I am Rick Johnson and I would like to serve the GSA as your Vice President Internal. I am a PhD student in the Department of Elementary Education. I believe that I can serve a useful role in ensuring that graduate students are informed and knowledgeable about the goals, events, and initiatives of our Association and University. Present vehicles for sharing information, such as newsletters, mailings, handbook, and our website must be maintained and enhanced. We must also explore and exploit personal contact as a means of sharing. By increasing the involvement of individuals in our committees and events we strengthen our network and increase the opportunities for face-to-face dialogue about our common interests. We can provide mechanisms for greater two-way contact as well. We need not think of the GSA as only the dispenser of information; we can become the touchstone for contributions from all graduate students. Recent initiatives and proposals for just this purpose include our e-journal, Crossing Boundaries, a survey of member views on issues such as negotiations, and places for collecting information in the handbook.

Involvement of the best people in our committees and events is critical to our success. We can and will continue to rely on fine people coming forward to answer general invitations, but we can take the initiative as well. We are in a position to define the jobs that need to be done and to determine the qualifications needed. These are prerequisites for implementing the three R's of volunteer involvement: Recruit the best person for the job, Retain the people doing it well, and Recognise their accomplishments. As a school administrator and association director, I have seen the phenomenal results that come from personally inviting someone after careful consideration and then providing them with the resources and support to do the job.

We are experiencing a growing network of department and faculty graduate student associations. People are finding these a personal and meaningful way to meet their organisational and social needs. The GSA can and should be a support for these groups. I bring my experience as co-ordinator of the Elementary Education Graduate Student's listserv, ElemGrad.

I have learned a great deal from my involvement as a founding member of the Elementary Education Graduate Students' Association, GSA Councilor for Elementary Education, and member of the GSA Negotiating Committee and GSA Negotiating Team. I've learned about the enormous work already carried on by talented and committed people on our behalf. I've experienced the good relations we already enjoy in the University of Alberta community. I've witnessed the benefits that our teamwork has brought to our academic and social initiatives. I am pleased to be part of the SUCCESS slate, a team that will continue to focus on the best university experience for all graduate students.

I pledge to do my part to ensure high quality communication and to garner greater involvement in the GSA.

When you complete your ballot, please Choose SUCCESS and Pick Rick!

Dan Preece For VP Academic (SUCCESS)

I am Dan Preece and I would like to be your next Vice-President Academic. I am currently a 2nd year Ph.D. candidate in the department of Political Science and I have a long history of involvement in student politics. For the last two years I have been an active participant in the Graduate Students' Association here at the University of Alberta, working both in GSA Council and in a variety of GSA committees. Moreover, by working on the General Faculties Council and the current Dean of Arts selection committee, I have been a vocal defender of the broader interests of all graduate students.

Prior to beginning my studies at the U of A, I completed my MA at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver and my BA at York University in Toronto. At SFU I acted as both the Teaching Support Staff Union shop steward and the representative on the Graduate Issues Committee for the department of Political Science. Additionally, I also acted as a student advocate in academic appeals and sat on the Senate Review Committee, which oversaw a comprehensive reform of the governance structure of SFU. At York, I founded and chaired the Undergraduate Political Science Council for its first two years and sat on both the Faculty of Arts Council and the Senate (equivalent to our GFC). It is my belief that by drawing upon this wealth of experience I will be able to best represent your interests as the Vice-President Academic of the Graduate Students' Association.

In my role of Vice-President Academic, I have three key goals that I want to accomplish in the next year. First, I want to further enlarge the role of students here at the University of Alberta, by expanding the venues for student representation in University Governance. Second, I want to work with the University Administration in implementing a system of twelve month funding for all graduate students. And, third, I will work to combat the issue of differential fees faced by international students in an attempt to overcome this unfair burden.

Having previously worked effectively with the other members of the SUCCESS slate over this last year, I have decided to run on this slate. The members of SUCCESS know that we can work together effectively in the coming year. By assembling a slate, we have put together a group of people that we know can serve your needs well. Our experience in all areas of GSA business and student government means that we will be able to best represent your interests. On February 13th and 14th, please come out and vote! Vote yes to make me your next Vice-President Academic. Come out and vote to make next year's executive a SUCCESS.

Lana Poukliakova for VP Internal (IND)

Hi everyone,

My name is Lana Poukliakova and I am an independent candidate in the elections for the vice-president internal position of the Graduate Students' Association. I'm a PhD student and in total I spent four years at the University of Alberta, starting as a Master's student.

I've been at the University of Alberta long enough to be familiar with our problems, needs and wants and to have an idea about what was done and what still has to be done for graduate students. Like the majority of us, I've never worked as an executive in student organizations partly because of the tremendous workload, partly because of other constraints, however, I feel that for me a time has come when I can contribute time and effort for GSA.

The position of vice-president internal of the GSA requires work within the student community. It requires communication with students, expressing their opinions through GSA publication and graduate student meetings and serving as a proper representative of their interests. If I am elected as a vice-president internal of the GSA, I will be able to put my knowledge and experience to work. One of the things, which has to be done, is to make GSA activities closer to student's life, to promote the benefits of being a GSA member. We all pay GSA fees, we have to make sure that the GSA works for us. And this is what I'm committed to do, if I am elected. As a new person in GSA executive board I will have a fresh "outsider" look and new ideas. I know the "ins and outs" of graduate student life and I'm familiar with the internal structure of the University. Also being a foreign student on the GSA executive will help the Executive to understand and work better for both Canadian and foreign graduate students.

Graduate Students' Association



2002/2003 Election Information

Neil Hepburn For VP Finance and Admin (SUCCESS)

I am Neil Hepburn and I am the candidate for VP Finance and Administration (VPFA). Over the past three years I have served on numerous committees including the Planning Committee, Awards Selection Committee, Lecture Grants Selection Committee, Constitution and Bylaws Committee, GSA Negotiation Committee, Long Range Planning Committee, External Advisory Board, General Faculties Council, and the Faculty of Graduate Studies Council. Plus, I have been the Executive Vice President for the current year. This gives me good insight and knowledge of GSA operations.

The main responsibility of the VPFA is to ensure the financial security of the organisation. This means making sure expenditures over the coming year are in line with the budget that the GSA membership passes at the Annual General Meeting. Having served on the Planning Committee since December 1999, I am familiar with the budget process and the environment faced by the GSA. In addition, my background in Economics, with a research focus in Public Finance enables me to understand the issues facing the GSA and the VP Finance & Administration.

In the mid 1990's the GSA ran into financial difficulty due to the operation of the Power Plant. Ever since we, as an organisation, have been very nervous about deficits. This has led to systematic under-estimating revenues and over-estimating expenses so as to avoid deficits. In the past four or five years that was a good defensive strategy. However, we are no longer in financial peril and need to start planning for the future. While a surplus is invariably better than a deficit, a surplus for the sake of a surplus just doesn't make sense. It means that we are taking in more money from our members than we are providing to them in services.

The most pressing challenge in the coming year is to revise the budget process to place it in a more structured and sensible framework. As the GSA grows, and continues to grow with the University's plans to increase graduate student enrolment, it becomes even more important that we have a logical framework for budgeting that will produce reasonable, well planned budgets and support future growth.

A sensible, sustainable budgeting framework takes into account immediate needs and future plans. We need to look ahead three to five years and develop an idea of the things that we want the GSA to be doing. Future activities will have capital requirements and we need to start budgeting for that today. As we develop the budget each year we need to keep in mind future capital requirements and explicitly target a certain proportion of each year's revenues for future needs. Beyond that, the budget each year should balance or be very close, allowing for unexpected circumstances.

I am committed to working with the rest of the Executive and doing my part as VPFA to make the GSA an efficient, effective, well-run organisation that is responsive to the needs of its members.

Chris Parker for VP Student Services (SUCCESS)

Hello there! My name is Chris Parker, and I am running for the position of Vice President Student Services. I have lots of experience that makes me ideal for this position. I also have a lot of great ideas on how to make GSA events and services even better. As one of the candidates running on the SUCCESS slate, I feel fortunate to be a member of such a great team.

I have been actively involved with student governments ever since I began my undergraduate degree. Working with students and helping to make school better have always been jobs that I have enjoyed. While at McMaster University as an undergraduate in electrical engineering, I was a very active member of the McMaster Engineering Society, an organisation run very much like the GSA but for undergraduate engineers only.

Here at the University of Alberta, I am completing my second year of my MSc in Computing Science. This past year, I have been the President of the Computing Science Graduate Student Association. My Executive and I have not only increased attendance to our events, but have dramatically increased the attendance of CSGSA members to GSA events.

It's true, social events aren't essential in our lives, but it is also true that they are essential to the GSA's life. Social events are the best places for GSA Executives to meet GSA members, students to meet other students, and graduate student groups to meet other groups. Without successful social events, the GSA Executives only get to meet a few GSA members in passing, and the members often go about uninformed of the services that we provide. It took going out to a GSA pub for me to learn that the GSA offers some of the best free coffee on campus in its student lounge!

As a member of the Student Services Advisory Committee, I have seen many of our attendees beginning to take better advantage of the GSA's services. The goal then is making sure that all students are made aware of events, and ensuring that the events will appeal to the diverse interests of graduate students at the UofA. As VP Student Services, I will not only ensure that the GSA continues its tradition of great social events, but I will strive to improve its great services too.

Finally, I would like to endorse the rest of the SUCCESS slate. A slate is a group of people who decide to run together in the elections. The members of SUCCESS are Brad, Elaine, Rick, Dan, Neil, and myself. We all know each other well, and know for certain that we will work well together. By voting for each of the members of SUCCESS, you are voting for a strong team who will be able to work together and make sure that the important jobs at the GSA get done. On Feb. 13th and 14th, make sure that you vote for the strong formula: elect the SUCCESS slate as the new GSA Executive!

"One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors" ~Plato

So get out and vote!

The GSA would like to offer sincere thanks to these sponsors, whose generosity has made this year's raffle a possibility:

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Important Dates

- **Feb 6-7, 2002** Advance polling at the GSA Office
- **Feb 11, 2002** 6 pm Candidates Forum 2-1 University Hall. Join us for a light supper and hear the candidates speak on key issues.
- **Feb 13-14** Polling in Department and GSA Offices
- **Feb 14, 2002** GSA Election Raffle
- **March 25, 2002** Annual General Meeting

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Shannon McEwen, Chief Returning Officer, or Sean Boomer, Deputy Returning Officer, at 492-2175 or via email gsacro@ualberta.ca. GSA office staff should also be able to assist with any queries.

Calgary Dudes battle Whitey

GIG REVIEW

Smilin Jay's Battle Royale
Featuring Whitey Houston
and The Dudes
with Pangina and
Little Baby Cupcakes
CJSR's Studio E
2 February, 2002

Erika Thorkelson
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

If you tuned in to 88.5 on the dial last Saturday evening, you might just have caught the sounds of an all-out battle of Alberta. Calgary's The Dudes and Edmonton's Whitey Houston shook the walls of CJSR's Studio E in a head-to-head, rock 'n roll rumble that rivaled even the most vicious games between the Oilers and the Flames.

Edmonton's dynamic rock duo took the stage first after a short delay due to the absence of half their band. Vocalist Whitey Houston, also known as Lyle Bell, bassist for seminal Edmonton rock band Molly's Reach, bounded in only minutes after nine, citing his girlfriend's going away dinner as the reason for his lateness.

Their set started soon after and

included crowd favourites like "Heavy Metal Parking Lot," chosen in light of Metro Cinema's screening of the documentary by the same name next weekend. To the audience's delight, the pair debuted their new song, "President Whitey."

Maybe it was because he'd eaten one too many taco chips at Julio's Barrio, or maybe it was sadness over his girlfriend's impending six-month absence, but Bell's vocals were a little less powerful than usual. While he pounded out the riffs with his usual flare, switching from grumbling bass to spine-tingling treble at a moment's notice, his voice stayed noticeably quiet. Unfazed by his partner's lack of energy, drummer Gravy provided a solid background, despite stories of heart troubles that recently caused him to change his name to "Cardiac Boy."

The half-time show was a special episode of Kim Steele's Rock Report that featured a round of questions for each contender on such important rock 'n roll topics as muscle cars and moustaches. Although the hometown team trailed for most of the round, they fought their way back to a tie on the final question which was about the



David Zeibin / THE GATEWAY

Dudebombs frolicked before the stage as bassist Pat Downing threatens to unleash the Dudes ultimate weapon.

time Bell got stuck in the Dudes basement and mistook the space between the washer and dryer for a urinal.

After half-time, the Dudes took the stage to hoots and hollers from a group of devoted female fans out front.

The four boys from Calgary started off their set slow but soon beat the emo tag by pumping up the volume and showing the audience that they're more than songs about ex-girlfriends. Ultimately, their sound proved to be like that of Modest Mouse but richer.

Pat Downing's growling bass lines shook the floor while he helped guitarist Dan Vacon take the vocal high road in two-part harmonies. Dan MacKinnon on drums and Bobby Quashnik on guitar rounded out the powerhouse of sound that assaulted the small room.

The energy reached its peak with the Dudes' elated battle cry, the song "Dudebomb," and the arrival of their reinforcements.

Two "dudebombs" (men with giant, bright orange, bomb-shaped masks) danced around drunkenly before the stage as the song's

chorus asked people to, "please stand back like I told you or the dudebomb will explode you." We're just lucky Studio E is still standing.

But who won, you ask? Well friends, there are no losers in a rock 'n roll Battle Royale, only winners; thus, both bands go home victorious. But the biggest winners of all are CJSR listeners who will get to tune into Smilin' Jay's Happy Hour every month for two hours of live rowdiness.

It sure beats waiting for the playoffs.

Kinky bachelor finds love in *Birthday Girl*

FILM REVIEW

Birthday Girl

Directed by Jez Butterworth
Starring Nicole Kidman, Ben Chaplin, Vincent Cassel,
Mathieu Kassovitz
Now Playing

Sean Townsend
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

If there's a secret to Nicole Kidman's recent winning streak in *Moulin Rouge* and *The Others*, it's that she seemed more involved in those quirky roles than much of her previous work. In *Birthday Girl*, Kidman keeps the streak alive with a performance that combines intense sensuality and bruised innocence. At the very least, the film proves that Kidman's taste for offbeat roles hasn't changed.

The premise—meek British guy orders himself a Russian bride over the Internet—is so full of possibilities, even the characters ask each other, "What will happen?"

What does happen is a movie that resists the pigeonholing critics are so fond of, but let's try anyway: it's a quirky Brit comedy, a sentimental romance, and a caper flick all in one. And it all works—up to a point.

The meek British guy in question is John Buckingham (Ben Chaplin). John lives in a small, brown, ant-infested house in a suburban

London neighbourhood as non-descript as he is, and he has held the same dull bank job for ten years. Like many such average men his age, John relieves his passive-aggressive frustrations with porn, in particular videos and magazines with names like *Hog-Tied Bitches*.

The best thing about Chaplin's performance is how he renders even this dubious kink quaintly pathetic. Wearing every expression on an open face that epitomizes nice-guy harmlessness, he makes it hard to imagine anyone a hog-tied woman would be safer with.

His colourless life changes dramatically when he goes to the airport to meet Nadia (Kidman), his new Russian bride. He calls it "quite a brave, reasonable thing to do," without stopping to think that brave and reasonable are as strange a pair of bedfellows as he and Nadia. Expecting the English-speaking non-smoker he requested, he is aghast to learn that Nadia speaks only Russian and smokes like a Chernobyl chimney. But when he tries to return her to sender, the mail-order service won't return his calls.

Luckily, Nadia has compensating charms—namely a voracious sexual appetite (not to mention the face and body of Nicole Kidman). When she discovers John's porn stash and lets him indulge his bondage fetish, he quickly decides that the language barrier and

smoking aren't such a big deal after all. She may not understand him verbally, but they have great conversations in the universal language of sex. Besides, there's nothing like restraints to make a man lose his restraint.

Dressed in various shabby punk-waif outfits, Kidman comes on like a femme fatale with a wide streak of vulnerability; she projects exactly the combination of exotic-vixen fantasy and damsel-in-distress desperation a porn-addled singleton might expect from a mail-order bride.

Things get complicated on Nadia's birthday, with the unexpected arrival of Nadia's two Russian "cousins" (played by Vincent Cassel and Mathieu Kassovitz, both French actors). To say any more would spoil the crucial plot twist that gives the film so much variety, but what comes after the twist is less convincing and more predictable than the events that lead up to it. Situations suddenly become more familiar, and even the direction by British playwright Jez Butterworth, who co-wrote the screenplay with his brother Tom, becomes more conventional and straightforward.

The question that was so open-ended at the beginning—"What will happen?"—is a foregone conclusion well before the ending, making *Birthday Girl* less of a surprise party than it might have been.



Kate Rossiter / THE GATEWAY

In a '50s-style prom dress, country darlin' Carolyn Mark yodels with heart.

Witty comedy and cigarette smoke bring *Present Laughter*

THEATRE REVIEW

Present Laughter

Directed by Bob Baker
Starring Lorne Kennedy, Brenda Robins, Brigitte Robinson
Citadel Theatre
Until 17 February

Philip Head
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF



Coming from a time when smoking a cigarette was thought to be as harmful as chewing a stick of gum, The Citadel's newest production may seem a little outdated.

However, Noel Coward's *Present Laughter*, though written in 1939, has a timeless quality that modern audiences can relate to. The play, written in the witty style of Oscar Wilde, contains subtle comments on both society and the theatre, which are as relevant and humorous today as half a century ago.

The convoluted and twist-filled plot centers around a famous actor named Garry Essendine, his trusted circle of friends, and what happens when that trust is threatened.

However, according to Brigitte Robinson who plays Garry's ex-wife Liz the play's themes are universal. "It's about love. It's about sexuality. It's about hiding one's feelings. It's about one's inadequacies. To me, it's completely relevant. If it weren't, we wouldn't be able to play it with I think the honesty we give it, because it's all about friendship, it's all about loyalty."

It's the energetic and subtle performances that really bring the story to life. Lorne Kennedy plays Gary in such a way that he alternates between seriousness and

winking at the audience demeanor. It's never clear whether he is overacting or playing his character overacting. This uncertainty is essential to the tone of the play as it leaves the audience unsure about just what Garry is thinking making him a much less two-dimensional character.

Garry's flamboyant energy is balanced by Jan Smith's enticing Joanna Lyppiatt. The actress gives her character both a believable accent and the sultry confidence necessary to make her character believable and the plot progress smoothly.

Jennie Esdale's wide-eyed Daphne Stillington is a stark contrast to the Smith's seductress. She plays the innocent girl seduced by Garry with a great deal of energy and skill. The only detraction from Esdale's performance, however, is that her voice is quite grating, moving from shrill to husky in mid sentence like an adolescent boy's.

Philip Sarsons gives an incredibly over the top performance as Roland Maule contrasts Gary's overblown confidence as a playwright who is equal parts Steve Urkel, creepy stalker, and pseudo-

intellectual student.

Acting as an anchor for the whole crazy bunch is Bridgette Robinson's Liz Essendine, who acts as the classic Hollywood-style straight-woman. Liz acts as a rational toe-hold for the audience throughout the zany plot.

The outlandish characters are accentuated by Leslie Frankish's flamboyant costumes. Garry's leopard-print night gown, Daphne's sailor outfit and a zebra stripe ensemble that Joanna wears in the final act all work along with the character's huge personalities to add to the lush melodrama of the themes. "It's silly and garish in some aspects," says Robinson, "but that's what Joanna is when she's wearing that silly thing."

But if you don't like second-hand smoke, avoid this show. The actors smoke what seems like ten packs a performance and by the end of the play the entire theatre is in a cloud of smoke that makes it seem more like a bar than a theatre.

In fact, seeing *Present Laughter* is a lot like going to the bar with your friends: you have a great time and you go home smelling like cigarettes.

Gross-out *Slackers* lost in a quagmire of comic conventions

FILM REVIEW

Slackers

Directed by Dewey Nicky
Starring Devon Sawa, Jason Schwartzman and James King
Now Playing

Karen Hackenbrook
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF



Even the elementary slacker knows that "slacking" consists of doing as little work as possible. However, according to *Slackers* writer David H Steinberg (*American Pie 2*) it seems to involve some sort of clever intricate scheme planned and rehearsed for the sole purpose of cheating the school system. The waste of energy seems enormous.

Loosely based on Steinberg's college experience, *Slackers* is yet another teen comedy that cracks Farrelly brothers-style gross-out jokes and offers no surprises beyond the typical conventions.

Devon Sawa (*American Pie*, *Final Destination*) plays Dave, a college "slacker" who makes the mistake of hitting on the same girl as Ethan, played by Jason Schwartzman (*Rushmore*), a psychotic geek. After helping his friend cheat on a midterm, Dave and his buddies are blackmailed by Ethan and forced to help him get a date with Angela (James King). Now, if three guys can fool the entire school system and cheat their way through high school and college, why can't they outwit the class loser?

While fulfilling Ethan's demands, Dave attempts to find out everything he possibly can about Angela, and along the way he falls for her.

Sawa plays the same guy he's played in every movie since *American Pie*: the jock who saves the day and gets the girl. It's that simple—guy meets girl, they fall in love, have an argument, and if you've ever seen any movie before

this, well, then you know how it ends.

Indeed, like *American Pie*, Steinberg incorporates a homoerotic tension between the male characters that leads one to believe that these movies are about more than boys just being boys.

Dave, Sam (Jason Segel), and Jeff (Michael Maronna) all seem to know just what the other is thinking. In fact the closeness of their friendship is about as plausible as three straight, grown men who deeply care about one another's love life and truly enjoy strolling around nude together.

Despite the unoriginal plot line, however, Schwartzman gives a funny, convincing performance as a nerd who is constantly wears his work uniform and smells a home-made "hair-doll" made of Angela's locks. He steals the film through his obsessive behaviour over a school crush and his false belief that around campus he's known as "Cool Ethan." Hopefully his next film will live up to the subtle, intelligent comedy of *Rushmore* in which he played a similar, love-sick nerd but with more heart.

In the end, if you've seen one gross-out teen movie, you've seen them all. Besides, a real slacker just shouldn't be bothered to go to all the trouble of seeing *Slackers* when *American Pie*, *Saving Silverman*, and *Road Trip* are no further away than the nearest video store.

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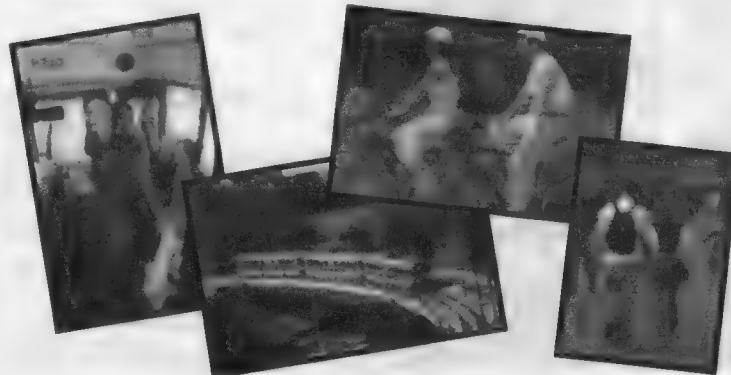
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Outlook bleak for Indiana Jones resurrection



ARTS OPINION
Indiana Jones

Nolan Shulak
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Foxnews.com has confirmed that a new Indiana Jones movie will soon be in production. Harrison Ford, who turns 60 this year, will recreate his role as the cordial tough-guy archaeologist who battles endless foes to ensure that priceless artifacts do not fall into the wrong hands.

The plot outline of *Indiana Jones 4* has not been officially stated as yet, but this reporter has tapped into his labyrinth of unreliable sources in order to get the goods and has formulated, what he believes, is a very plausible storyline. The newest incarnation of the popular

adventure series will feature an aging hero who tries to come to grips with gradual lack of prowess in the bedroom. The film will be entitled *Indiana Jones and the Erectile Dysfunction* and it should hit the screen sometime next year.

At the start of the film, we'll see a mature Indiana who is frustrated by the physical deficiencies that maturity has brought on. He becomes a sexual deviant and ends up in a "penal" colony. A co-inmate informs him of an ancient potion that, when mixed with prune juice, will restore him to full girth. This news incites him to execute a brilliant escape and to begin his search for the powerful elixir.

The plot thickens when Indiana attempts to retrieve the miracle elixir from behind thousands of tons of rock near the scenic Viagra Falls in the deepest jungles of Bolivia. Discovering within these Falls a serious contradiction in terms, Indiana realizes that he has been misled. His spirits begin to sag until he receives a surprise visit from Short Round, his fearless sidekick from *Temple of Doom*. Short Round convinces Indy that size is not the most important factor; it's how you crack your whip that counts. I won't reveal the climax but I will say this: It's a thing of beauty that everyone must experience.

Neither Ford nor Spielberg (or anyone else with reliable facts) could be reached for comment but a member of the Foundation for

the Longevity of Acting Careers In Decline (FLACID) assured us that Mr Ford was up for the challenge.

Those who were around to see the first *Indiana Jones* movie in the theatre (*Raiders of the Lost Ark*) will be pleased to know that the forthcoming movie will be closed-captioned for the hearing impaired. Personally, I'm overjoyed to see senior citizens continuing to live active, exciting lives into their 60s and 70s. It's a clear indication of the resiliency of our aging baby boomer population. More importantly, it frees up tables in the food courts.

So, no matter what anybody says, the future looks bright for the aging Harrison Ford and his drooping career. It's just too bad his contemporaries Mark Hamill, Sylvester Stallone, and Methuselah can't keep up.



P!NK
Missundaztood
Arista Records
www.P!nkspage.com

Kris Berezanski
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

P!nk's complete overhaul from dance mistress to rock queen may seem strange at first, but it's actually logical. P!nk has a penchant for loud screams and out-there fashion, which could easily put her in leagues with '80s metal. Unfortunately, her music can't touch the classic Def Leppard and Poison sounds of yore. Instead, it recalls a mix of dance and rock circa 1990. In fact, this album is a vehicle for ex-4 Non Blondes singer Linda Perry, who produced and co-wrote *Missundaztood*, to get her career back on track.

Of course, Perry might just be reliving her own past by producing a sub-par sophomore album that recalls the one-hit wonder career of her former band. The two best songs, however, "Get the Party Started" and "Lonely Girl" were written by Perry, and the latter features her on vocals.

P!nk's contribution to *Missundaztood* are songs about her tragic upbringing and dysfunctional family that get tiresome very quick. The album, which also features Steven Tyler (Aerosmith), has a few catchy Perry songs surrounded by P!nk recycling the same monotonous themes and music from song to song.

CULTURA OBSCURA



Homocidal Lesbian Terrorist
Booster Bar

Erika Thorkelson
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Nothing soothes the savage beast like chocolate. But in this case it looks like chocolate is pumping the juice of feminist fury through the veins of your average innocent lesbian. Yes, Homocidal Lesbian Terrorist Booster Bar is just what a girl needs to keep herself going

through a long day of fighting the "Evil White Male" oppressor.

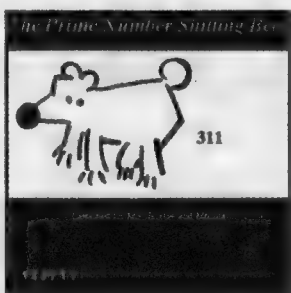
The cover of the bar features a picture of the fiery Hothead Paisan (imagine a lesbian Tank-girl), the hero of the comic book by Diana DiMassa, encouraging you in a speech bubble to "have two!" Who'd have thought that Hothead would be able take time out from killing men to endorse a booster bar?

Of course, if the bar's only flavour, "chawklit and peanut butter," isn't to your liking, you do have options. There is also a chocolate and raspberry flavoured Femme Dyke Bitch Bar that features a lovely light blue wrapper and a blonde cartoon woman who seems too busy eating to promote the product her face is on.

These bars are not available from your local 7-11, but you can get them through www.shaddowdomain.com, fine purveyors of gothic treasures and other kinky merchandise.

Fight the power, sister.

SITE UNSEEN



members.surfu.fi/kklaine/primebear.html

James Elford
CIRCULATION MANAGER

Making all of those who had trouble achieving high grades in math

class feel even worse, the Internet has now provided the world with a bear whose ass can do what many highschool students can't: calculate prime numbers.

Through the magic of Flash, you can now watch a bear's spastic colon regularly shoot out a prime number.

Don't know what a prime number is? Well, they're those wacky hooligans of the math world, like three, five and 59, that don't think they need to be divisible by any number besides one and themselves.

And as if that weren't enough, the very nature of prime numbers means that you could sit in front of your computer watching this animated miracle of ursine anal arithmetic forever... or at least until you die a painful death after a wasted life.

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- Applications available at 2-900 SUB or at any SU info. booth
- Application deadline February 8th.

If you would like to review all Students' Union job postings, they can be found at this website:
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Empty Pocket

AMT



Sports in Brief

Bears hockey

The Bears secured first place in their division, taking three of four points from the visiting Lethbridge Pronghorns—a 12-3 win Friday and a 2-2 tie Saturday. Alberta now holds an insurmountable nine-point lead over second-place Calgary, with only four games remaining. Sophomore forward Wade Burt led the charge, recording a hat-trick and three helpers in the win. Burt was also the hero in Saturday's return match. His goal midway through the third period salvaged a 2-2 tie with the 'Horns.

Basketball

The Bears extended their winning streak to 17 games over the weekend, scoring 76-73 and 95-76 wins over the U of S Huskies.

Robbie Valpreda was on fire in Saturday's 19-point win, as the 6'9" forward racked-up 28 points and 12 rebounds.

The Pandas withstood a 40-point Huskies' second-half to hold on to win 67-65 Saturday night. That victory, combined with a 92-81 win in overtime Friday, cements the U of A team into the third-place berth for the rapidly approaching playoffs. Alberta forward Erin Stonehocker continued her hot streak, recording 17 points in both contests.

Volleyball

In Abbotsford there was much wailing and gnashing of teeth, as the Trinity Western Spartans failed to win a single set against the U of A teams in volleyball action this past weekend.

The Pandas made it though all the gears in their matches against Trinity. The U of A women swept the Spartans in straight sets both nights. The Pandas finish the regular season with seven wins to 13 losses, good enough for third in the division and the final playoff spot in the division. They'll travel to UBC for Canada West quarter-finals next weekend.

The Bears finished the regular season with a sweep of the Trinity Western men's team. The Bears made quick work the Spartans, winning in straight sets both nights. The Bears' 15-5 record gives them first-place in their division and a bye in the first round of the playoffs. They will open their post-season in two weeks as host of a conference semi-final match.

Pandas hockey

The Pandas were not in action this past weekend, but their playoff picture became crystal clear. The second-place Pronghorns will host third-place Dinos in a best-of-three series 15-17 February. The Pandas will host the winner of that series 22-24 February.

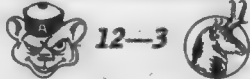
Soul-searching Saturday night for Bears

Another blowout, then a disappointing tie, has the Bears asking themselves big questions

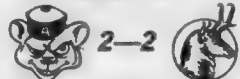
U of A Golden Bears

VS

U of L Pronghorns



Alta scorers: Burt (3), Hobson (2), Shybunka, McGhan, Ovington, Wade, Girard, Scantlebury, Lynch,



Alta scorers: Jeff Zorn, Wade Burt

Collin Gallant

SPORTS EDITOR

The Clare Drake faithful were treated to more than your regular Canada West men's hockey series last weekend. Unbeknownst to the people at the Canada West scheduling office, four different teams took part in the action, as the Golden Bears and the Lethbridge Pronghorns traded Jekyll and Hyde routines over the two games.

Friday's contest showed the Bears in fine form against a Pronghorn team that played as if all 25 skaters had travelled 500km—all in the same car.

The stiff and uncharacteristically passive Pronghorns didn't put up much of a struggle as the Bears dominated the game.

Alberta jumped to a 3-0 lead within the first five minutes, but Lethbridge showed signs of life, exiting for the first intermission trailing 4-2.

However, after the dust settled, Alberta had outshot the 'Horns 53-27, including 23-6 in the Bears' six-goal second period which chased 'Horns' starter Kirby Millar from the net at the midway point.

The strong play of the newly minted third-line of Wade Burt, Tyler Shybunka and Jonathon Hobson figured prominently, as the trio combined for six of the Alberta goals. Burt, better known as a role player than an offensive threat, recorded a personal best six points on the night (a hat-trick and three assists). Hobson notched a pair of goals; Shybunka had a single.

It was a game where everything seemed to go right for the Bears. Whether you call it "bounces" or "puck sense," the Bears had it in spades and they dished it out at both ends of the rink.

All but three Bears' skaters recorded points on the night. Only blueliners Blair St Martin and



Chul-Ahn Jeong / THE GATEWAY

Bears winger Jonathan Hobson fights for position during Saturday night's frustrating tie.

Gavin McLeod were held off the scoresheet, along with winger Sean Day, who left the game in the second period after suffering a yet-to-be-determined knee injury.

"We didn't change our style of play," said Burt, named Canada West hockey player of the week. "[My line was] just trying to create energy, and we started getting bounces."

Bears head coach Rob Daum agreed when asked about the win.

"Games like that happen maybe once every two years," said the Bears' bench boss of the game's unusual flow.

"No matter what we do tomorrow, it'll seem like a let down," said Daum, alluding to the Bears' habit of playing down to the competition in follow-up matches. With the blowout, the Bears improved to 11-0-1 in the first game of a series, whereas the Bears sat with a 6-3-2 record in return matches.

"Nothing could be as good as [Friday's game]," said Daum.

And he was proven right.

On Saturday, Lethbridge went back to basics, playing the style which helps them succeed: a gritty, positional game, big on finishing checks, not so much on finesse.

Though the Bears had the majority of puck possession, they seemed anemic compared to their Friday

form. Noticeably absent throughout the weekend was production from the Bears top-line of Ryan Wade, Steve Shrum, and Kris Knoblauch. Shrum left the game during the intermission, still feeling the effects of a lingering flu.

The Pronghorns went up by two halfway through the second, capitalizing on a bad rebound, but defencemen Jeff Zorn put the Bears on the board only 20 seconds later.

A tighter man-on-man defence from the Pronghorns refused to allow the Bears to set up their offence. While generally ineffective in the offensive zone, the 'Horns played solid at home in the neutral zone as the Bears overplayed the puck, almost desperately trying to make the perfect play.

The majority of Alberta's shots were from bad angles—in total 45 were turned away by 'Horns third-string goalie Brooke Kosolofski in his first start in two years. The sophomore handled 45 of 47 shots, compared to the 27 saves on 29 shots Clayton Poole saw in the game. Poole played both nights of a series for the first time all season.

"We were really fighting with the puck out there," said Burt, whose redirection tied the game at two heading into the final ten minutes. "We brought our 'A' game on Friday and then fell asleep out there [on

Saturday]."

Both teams took a couple of shots in extra time. Nothing was resolved and the game ended.

What began as the horn sounded is perhaps the most intense scrutiny this team has had to handle in recent years: the Saturday night questions.

Gone were the throngs of minor hockey players that usually traipse through the Bears' dressing room in search of autographs. In fact, ten minutes after the game ended, all the Bears were gone, down the hall to ride the cardio-bikes. The only exceptions were a few players milling around waiting for time with the trainers.

"There's just something about Saturdays," said Bears captain St Martin, adjusting his knee brace, his eyes fixed on the opposite wall as if searching for an answer.

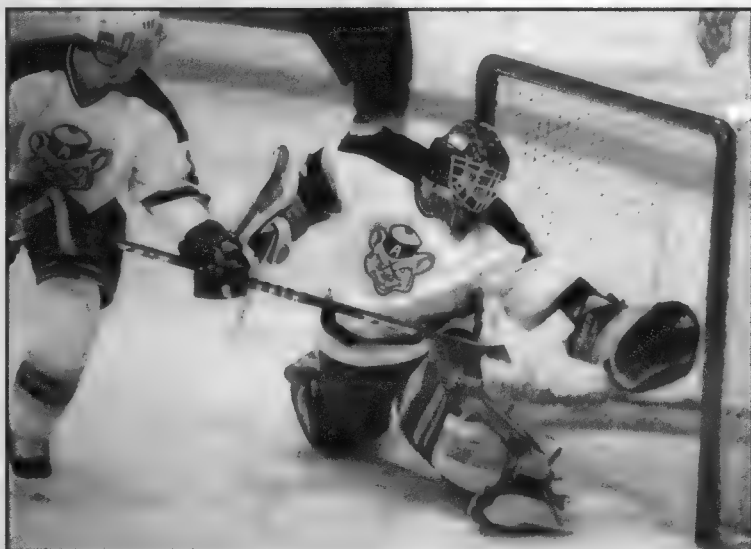
"What it comes right down to is that we couldn't score—last night we got twelve, tonight we got two. We're not finishing on our chances.

"Sure it was a tougher game tonight [than on Friday], but that's the style we'll see from here in. We need to find a way to overcome that.

"These are [like] playoff weekends," said St Martin. "They need to be treated as such."

BEARS RESULTS NIGHT BY NIGHT

Date	Bears on Friday (11-0-1)	Bears on Saturday (6-3-3)
12-13 October	3-3 tie at UBC	6-2 win at UBC
19-20 October	9-0 win vs Manitoba	4-1 win vs Manitoba
26-27 October	3-0 win at Regina	2-2 tie at Regina
2-3 November	11-1 win vs Brandon	10-3 win vs Brandon
9-10 November	5-2 win at Lethbridge	3-3 tie at Lethbridge
17-18 November	1-0 win at Sask	3-5 loss at Sask
23-24 November	4-3 win vs Calgary	2-1 win at Calgary
4-5 January	4-0 win vs UBC	2-0 win vs UBC
11-12 January	5-3 win at Manitoba	5-2 loss at Manitoba
18-19 January	7-0 win vs Regina	3-2 vs Regina
25-26 January	8-1 win at Brandon	3-2 loss at Brandon
1-2 February	12-3 win vs Lethbridge	2-2 tie vs Lethbridge
Conference 17-3-4	Overall 23-7-5	Record against top-
Home 10-0-1	Home 15-1-1	ten nationally ranked
Away 7-3-3	Away 8-6-4	teams: 5-1-2



James Johnson / THE GATEWAY

Clayton Poole pulled a double shift between the pipes last weekend.

Bears make mincemeat of Spartans

Erin Loxam
SPORTS STAFF

The University of Alberta Golden Bears volleyball team finished off the regular season with a convincing sweep of the visiting Trinity Western Spartans. Their regular season record of 15-5 had already qualified them for a playoff berth, two weeks from now, here at the Main Gym.

Friday night, the Bears came out a little flat, down early in the first two sets. But with strong play at the net, the Alberta squad came back without much of a reply. The Bears won the game in three straight sets (25-19, 25-16, 25-17), as Sandy Henderson recorded another strong effort leading the Bears with 11 kills and 7 digs. Trinity Western was lead by Chris Meehan with 8 kills.

A strong follow-up effort on Saturday night saw the Bears take control over the match. Never down by more than a point, they went on to win all three sets by the score of 25-19.

Many team members showed strong blocking abilities, including the skillful use of the head by second year player Anthony Szkultecki. Halfway through the second set a Spartan block ricocheted off the second-year middle's noggin, went back over net to drop between a stunned Spartan frontline. That point won a long rally and further deflated the Spartans.

In addition to Szkultecki's efforts, fourth-year Pascal Cardinal has regained some of his pre-injury

strength on the court, recording eleven kills and seven digs. The Spartans led with Corry Baum's ten kills and Jeff Van Huizen's twelve digs.

"We left our mark with Trinity Western again this year," summed-up Bears coach Richard Schick of his team's dominating play. "If we play them again, that's a big edge that we'll have. If not, it's good for next year."

Finishing first in the Mountain Division, the Bears have obtained a bye through to the conference semi-final series. The Bears now have two weeks to prepare for their first playoff series.

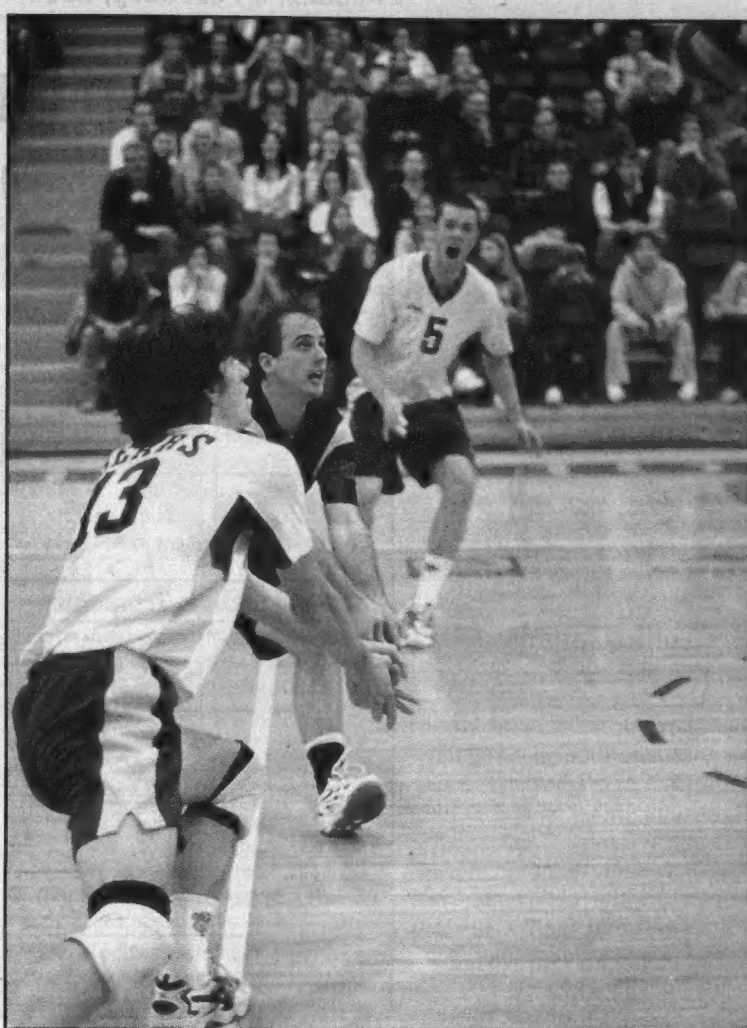
Coach Schick gave the team Monday off, but come Tuesday, "It's right back to business."

His players echo the sentiment. "A weekend off won't hurt us," said starting setter Ryan Taylor. "Then we prepare, practice hard and wait to see who we have to play."

Which team the Bears will face in the semi-final will be determined by the outcome of next weekend's quarter-final between the University of Winnipeg or the University of Saskatchewan. Neither team can be taken lightly, as they are currently ranked number two and three in the country, respectively.

The University of Alberta hosts the National Championship in men's volleyball this year, which means a guaranteed berth for the Bears at the three-day tournament in Late February.

"We know we're in nationals but obviously we want to go in ranked high, so that we have an easier first game," explained Taylor. "We



Chris Miller / THE GATEWAY

Sandy Henderson (13) and Lucas Snider move to return a TWU serve.

can win CanadaWest, go in ranked number one and have a lot easier road to the final at nationals."

Alberta's last men's volleyball national title came in 1997, when Schick was a member of the Bears.

"I think this is a similar team

to the team in 1997," said Schick of the current Bears contingent. "[Both teams] didn't have just one standout guy, instead we had a lot of options in offense. The only difference is [now] we're just a little younger than that team that won [in '97]."

Pandas head to UBC after Spartan sweep

Women's team back in the playoffs following one-year absence

Matthew Evans
SPORTS STAFF

With the playoffs looming, and a first round match-up against the UBC Thunderbirds already set in stone, the Pandas volleyball squad could have been excused for looking past last weekend's series with the Trinity Western Spartans.

Dragging an unimpressive 2-16 record into the Main Gym on Friday, the Spartans occupy the sub-basement of Canada West's Mountain Division, and looked to pose little threat. The Pandas, however, were sporting a less than stellar 5-13 Canada West record of their own, and were not about to take the series lightly. Coach Laurie Eisler emphasized that the difficulty would be in "not assuming that all the points will be easy."

Friday night's 3-0 sweep of the Spartans was a testament to the Pandas' determination to avoid an upset on the final weekend of regular season play. Even without Tawana Wardlaw, Canada West's fourth leading hitter, who was lost to an ankle injury, the Pandas managed to throw a variety of attacks at TWU, both from the front court and back. The Spartans had no reply to the powerful hitting of Pandas Angela Zawada and Janna Konihowski. Both players finished Friday's action with nine kills

each, as the Pandas closed out the Spartans with scores of 25-16, 25-17, and 25-20.

On Saturday, the Pandas looked to ratchet up their defensive play, said Eisler. The team looked to "avoid consecutive errors and minimize runs" made by TWU.

In the course of another 3-0 Alberta sweep, they did just that, giving up only 11, 14 and 17 points in the three sets, respectively. Continuing her strong offensive play, Zawada recorded 15 kills in the match, while Susie Buckmaster contributed 19 digs on defense.

"It's been a season of preparation. If you're not ready now, then so long."

— Laurie Eisler, head coach, Pandas volleyball

Throughout the weekend, the Pandas showcased their poise and patience. When challenged by the Spartans, the U of A squad consistently found ways to win the long rallies, often taking advantage of TWU's lack of communication and weak passing. Second-year setter Larissa Cundy stood out with her savvy play at the net, scoring points on a number of subtle tips that exploited the poor court coverage of her opponents.

With this final regular season bout behind them, the Pandas can now safely look ahead to the play-



Chris Miller / THE GATEWAY

Diving for the dig, setter Larissa Cundy and the Pandas concentrated on their defence in Saturday's lambasting of the TWU Spartans.

offs. Their first round series versus UBC is certainly a cause for concern, as the last time these two teams locked horns on 18 and 19 January, the Pandas failed to take a set.

Prior to this weekend's action, the Thunderbirds were ranked fourth in the CIS, while the Pandas occupied the eighth-ranked position.

"The preparation is done," said

Eisler, whose team missed the post-season last season following a string of six national title wins in the six previous years. "It's been a season of preparation. If you're not ready now, then so long."

Eisler maintained this her team has little left to do in the way of preparation.

"We need to focus on what we do well, and doing it really well."

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

TEAM MP MW ML GW GL PTS

GREAT PLAINS DIVISION

1 Manitoba	20	17	3	54	23	34
2 Winnipeg	19	14	5	48	22	28
3 Sask	20	12	8	46	32	24
4 Regina	20	0	20	2	60	0

MOUNTAIN DIVISION

1 Alberta	20	15	5	50	26	30
2 Calgary	19	9	10	39	40	18
3 TWU	20	8	12	32	39	16
4 UBC	20	4	16	22	51	8

Playoff format:

The top three teams from each division make the playoffs with the top finisher receiving a bye into the second round. The second- and third-place teams compete in a quarter final with the winner moving on to face the first-place team in the division.

CONFERENCE LEADERS

KILLS

Player, Team	SP	K	K/SP
1 Denis Zhukov, Calgary	67	296	4.42
2 T Cooper, Manitoba	56	218	3.89
3 Chad Grimm, UBC	67	246	3.67
4 Jason Dufault, Win	43	147	3.42
5 Adam Ens, Sask	57	182	3.19
10 S Henderson, Alta	46	116	2.52

BLOCKS

Player, Team	SP	B	B/SP
1 Peter Turpin, Manitoba	54	79	1.46
2 Daniel Roth, Sask	61	77	1.26
3 Leo Carroll, Alta	39	44	1.13
4 Mike McPherson, Alta	48	53	1.10
5 Paul Armbruster, Calgary	59	57	0.97
6 Ryan Taylor, Alta	41	37	0.90

DIGS

Player, Team	SP	D	D/SP
1 S Scarcello, Winnipeg	46	153	3.33
2 T Plummer, Manitoba	52	125	2.40
3 Luke Snider, Alta	48	111	2.31
4 Josh Janzen, Sask	58	120	2.07
5 Mark Yuen, UBC	67	138	2.06

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

TEAM MP MW ML GW GL PTS

GREAT PLAINS DIVISION

1 Manitoba	20	17	3	55	22	34
2 Sask	20	16	4	53	22	32
3 Winnipeg	20	7	13	25	41	14
4 Regina	20	0	20	5	60	0

MOUNTAIN DIVISION

1 Calgary	20	18	2	57	18	36
2 UBC	20	13	7	50	27	26
3 Alberta	20	7	13	34	43	14
4 TWU	20	2	18	9	55	4

Playoff format:

The top three teams from each division make the playoffs with the top finisher receiving a bye into the second round. The second- and third-place teams compete in a quarter final with the winner moving on to face the first-place team in the division.

CONFERENCE LEADERS

KILLS

Player, Team	SP	D	D/SP
1 Krista Kinsman, Cgy	58	204	3.52
2 Kathy Preston, Man	47	148	3.15
3 Lindsay Bothner, Sask	53	161	3.04
4 Tawana Wardlaw, Alta	44	123	2.80
5 Leah Allinger, UBC	62	172	2.77
12 J Mackenzie, Alta	48	110	2.29

BLOCKS

Player, Team	SP	D	D/SP
1 Jill Friend, Calgary	58	67	1.16
2 Jaclyn Cross, UBC	44	45	1.02
3 Kathy Preston, Man	47	47	1.00
4 Tracy Keats, Calgary	45	44	0.98
5 Tammy Mahon, Man	53	49	0.92
7 Jossann Mackenzie, Alta	48	39	0.81
13 Susie Buckmaster, Alta	47	35	0.74

DIGS

Player, Team	SP	D	D/SP
1 Chelsea Grimson, Sask	53	195	3.68
2 Elaine Lee, Sask	53	189	3.57
3 Kristy Fewchuck, Wpg	36	106	2.94
4 Leah Allinger, UBC	62	176	2.84
5 Izzy Czerveniak, UBC	64	181	2.83
13 Angela Zawada, Alta	51	125	2.45

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Employment - Full Time

St Joseph's College is seeking a Student for the position of: SUMMER RESIDENCE COORDINATOR. The successful applicant will be responsible for all coordinating aspects of the summer residence. The full time position begins 1 May, 2002 and runs to 31 August, 2002. There is a possibility of part time employment effective immediately. A competitive compensation package is available including room and board. Some business experience and dealing with cash would be an asset. Applications should forward in confidence along with two references: Mr James Cunningham, Director of Development, St Joseph's College, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2J5. Application Deadline is 8 February, 2002. No phone inquiries please.

The City of Edmonton, Community Services, Neighborhood Social and Recreation Services is currently recruiting for summer program positions for playgrounds, daycamps, youth programs, the Heritage Amphitheatre, and River Valley programs. We are looking for coordinators, leaders, junior leaders, wading pool supervisors, skateboard park instructors. The wages range from \$7.50 to \$17 depending on training, experience, and specialized skills. Visit www.gov.edmonton.ab.ca or CaPS for more information on the positions, deadlines, and how to apply.

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Employment - Part Time

Non-profit out of school care requires. P/T childcare workers immediately. Various shifts, could lead to summer employment. Call Kerri-Lynn at 484-7622 or 484-0170 and fax 486-1791.

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TEAM Up Now! TEAM is a new Big Sister/Big Brother program which offers group recreational activities to young boys. If you are male, 18+ years and enjoy sports, adventure, computer, etc. call 424-8181 today. TEAM up now! Volunteer Assistant for Kids' Karate

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HAPPY BOB KNOWS

The International Centre presents "Study Abroad" Information Sessions from Tuesday, 5 February through Friday, 8 February at various times. There is no charge for admission. The location is the International Centre, 172 HUB Mall. Explore your options to study, work, or volunteer abroad in general sessions, as well as information on the U of A's four-week summer study programs in Brazil and France. For more information contact Sherilyn Trompeter at 492-0089.

CaPS (Career and Placement Services) presents various Workshops and Career Forums from Tuesday, 5 February, through Wednesday, 13 February at various times. There is \$4.00 charge for admission. Forums will be held at various locations on Campus. CaPS is sponsoring Career Forums for Sociology and International Business, as well as an Employer Information Session for Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. Pre-register for these events at CaPS (2-10 SUB) today. For more info contact CaPS at 492-4291.

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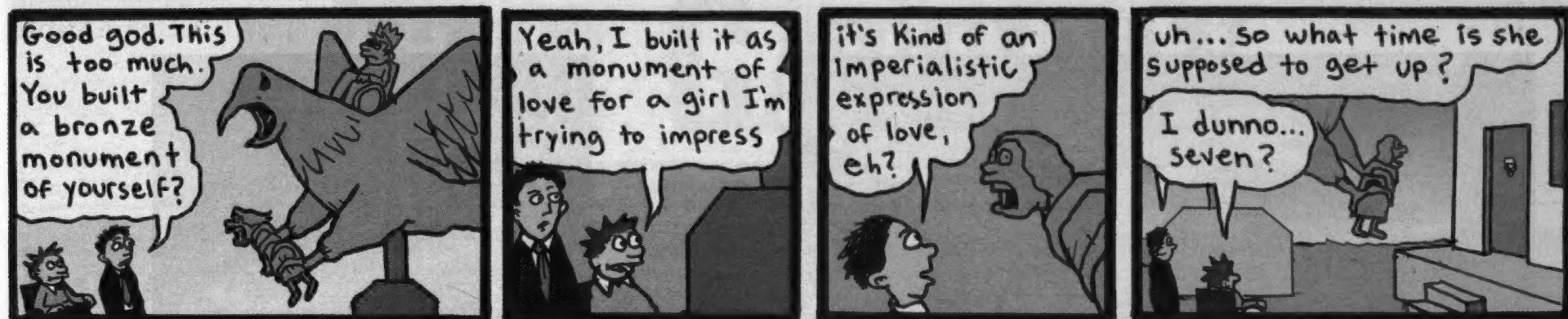
Patrimoine
canadien Canadian
Heritage

God is Love
(Experience it)

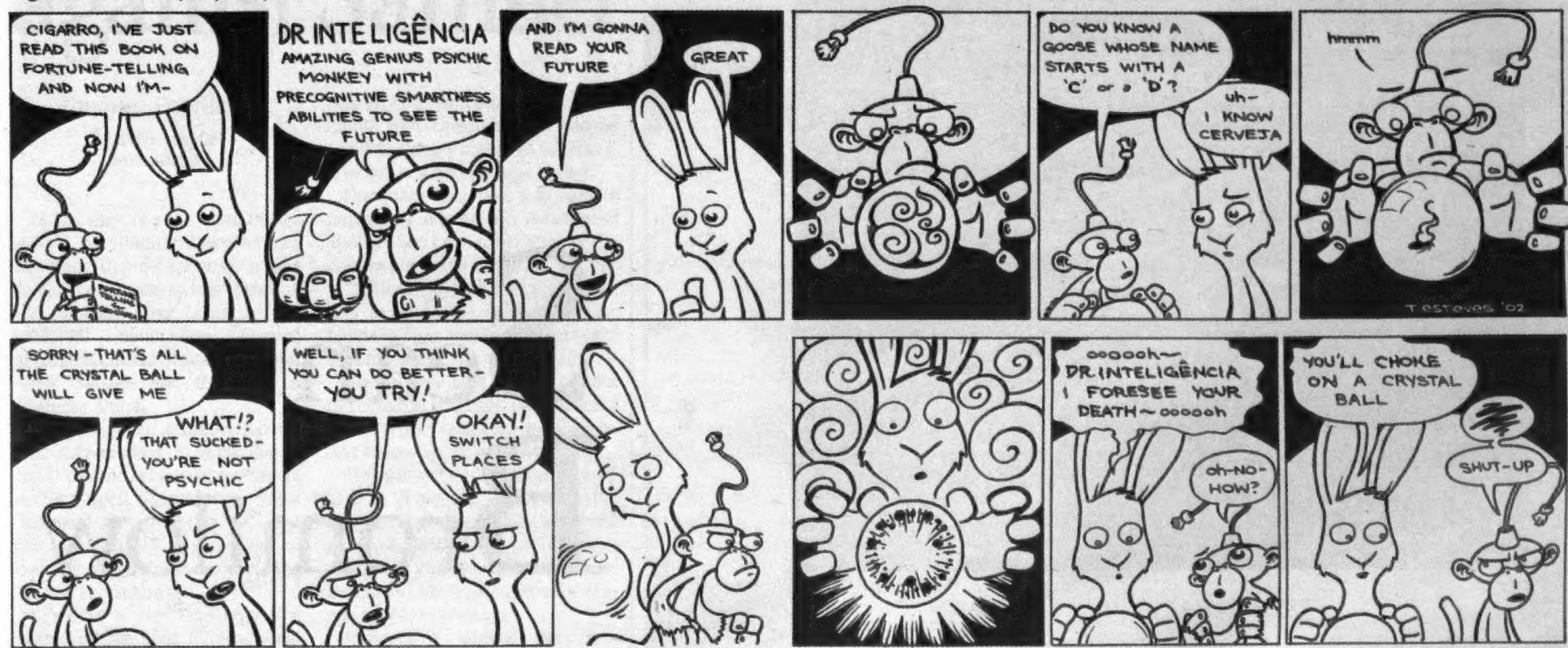
Shine – Fridays at 4:00
Education North 2-115

CAMPUS  CRUSADE

The Handicapalist by Mike Winters



Cigarro and Cerveja by Tony Esteves



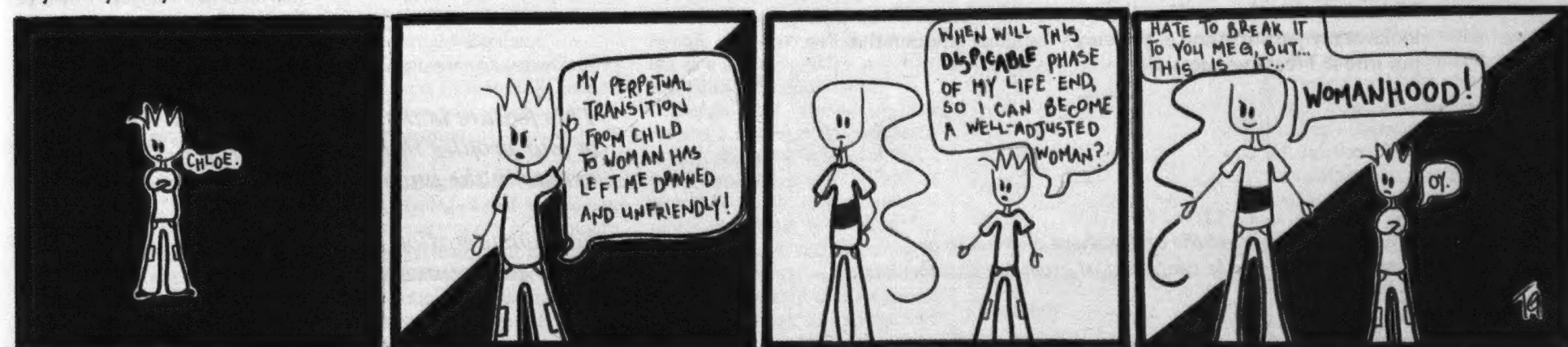
Blackout by C and J

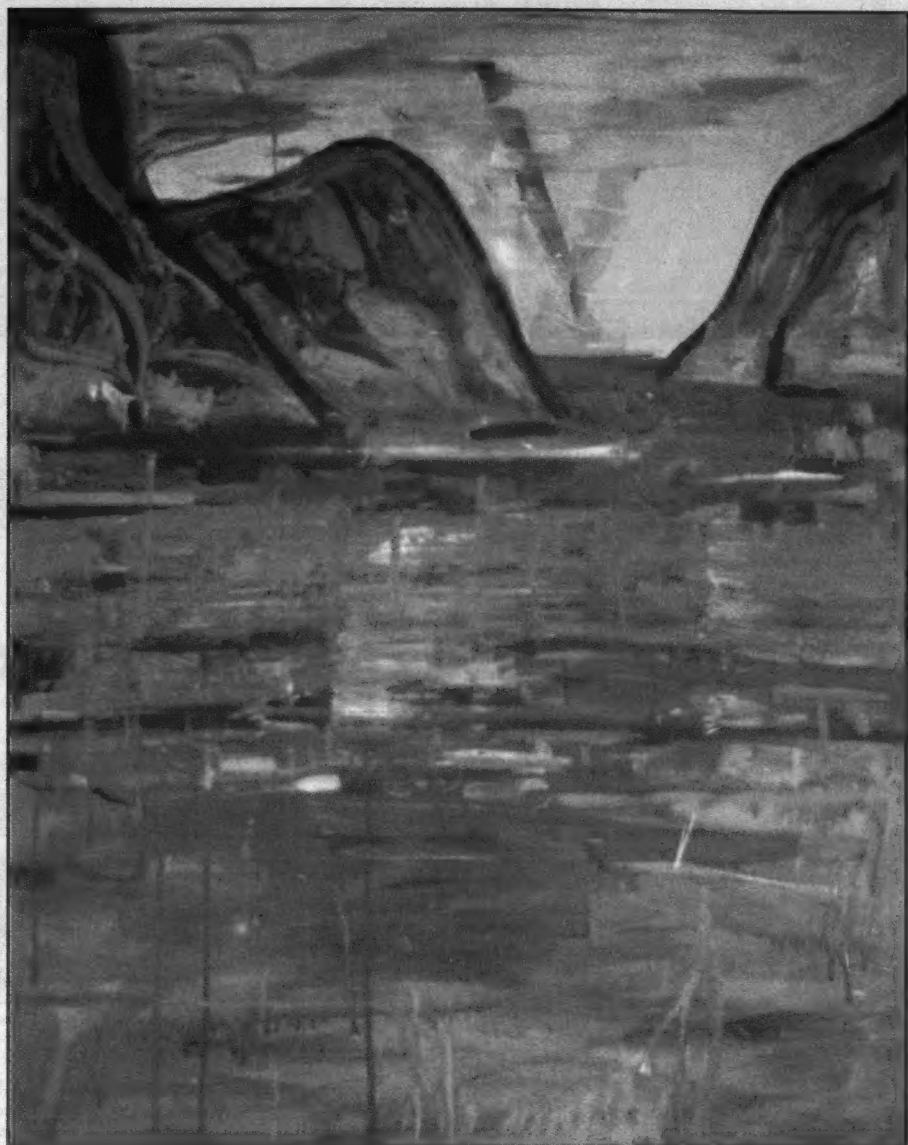


Brooklyn and Polar by Alex Labarda



Heyben by Tracy Greene





Sean Bromilow

W artist statement:

When you look at a piece of art, there's a gut reaction, a kind of instinctual emotional response. The first thing that comes to mind is not the complex juxtaposition of colours or the fascinating choice of subject, it's usually one of three responses: "I like that," "It's OK" or "Yuck." There are of course thousands of variations on these themes, and any one painting might get responses ranging from "I love it!" to "What a waste of paint." This is why I have such a hard time talking about my paintings. The brushstrokes and colours and subjects are important, but not as important as that first knee-jerk response. So go ahead and have that reaction. If you like what you see, keep reading.

As I said, the reaction to a piece of art is fairly instinctual. This is because art is used to represent or investigate the world all around us. Everywhere I go, I'm painting, and everything I see is a potential subject. That's not to say that I carry a canvas around with me all the time; in fact, most of my painting is done without ever touching a brush. When I see something beautiful, I store the image in my head and decide what I'm going to do with it. I toss that image around in my head for months or years before I decide that it's just right. When I do finally pick up a paintbrush and get out the acrylics, I'm in the final stages of painting. This isn't to say that I'm just regurgitating a pretty sunset or a mountain peak; in fact I've spent hours interpreting an image, and finding the emotion behind it. There's a great deal of emotion in everything I paint, and sometimes it's found in the representation, instead of the actual subject. This is why a sky can end up yellow, or a city scene can be an abstract. The great thing about art is that it's your representation, your choice.

Ultimately, it's the reaction that matters the most. If someone looks at my painting and experiences the same emotion that I've put into it, I feel I've succeeded.



This feature is the second in a series of four profiles that highlight local artists in the university community.

If you wish to contact the artist about a showing or purchasing, he can be contacted at bromilow@ualberta.ca

For consideration please contact the editor at features@su.ualberta.ca